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June 1, 2019

Medical Board of California

RE: Complaint against Corinne Vivian Basch MD

Dr. Basch is so concerned with patients becoming addicted to medications that she counseled me to get off Senna, a natural supplement I had been using for chronic constipation. Apparently, the bowels become dependent on the drug to function properly. When my knee hurts some months after surgery, instead of medications she sends me to physical therapy.

In our initial interview, Dr. Basch expressed concern about my taking 2mg Clonazepam that has been prescribed by my just recently retired Psychiatrist and wanted to make a plan to titrate down and, perhaps, off of it. I explained that starting with 0.50 mg it took 20 years to work up to 2 mg. Small as that is, Dr. still wants a trial of titrating down. Since this is not for pain or anxiety it's tricky, however, together we move forward.

Dr. Basch is not only thorough but also extremely patient until goals are met. Dr. Basch will continue to push the issue—Just enough, send me for testing, change the dosage of the meds until we achieve optimal levels. I say WE because she practices medicine as a Team Leader in my experience. I can be oppositional and noncompliant. She knows that by inspiring and encouraging my willingness to be healthy, that we achieve positive results. That is the art and skill of a brilliant Physician. I'm 67 years old. I've been practicing psychotherapy for forty years. Dr Basch's interpersonal skill in the practice of medicine with her patients is incomparable to any MD I've had in my life.

In addition to being knowledgeable with the latest in Western Primary Care Medicine, which she has taught as well as practiced, as a Holistic Practitioner, she stays current on treatments newly being integrated into traditional medicine. Here is an example. She was providing training on pain management at my professional organization, Northcoast Association of Mental Health Providers. I asked what she knew of the latest research for pain management being done with Turmeric. Sure enough, she was current on the topic. No pill pusher is going to bother to stay informed about alternative, non-addictive pain relief.

As a seasoned therapist well versed in addiction, I can tell you that without the support and inspiration the good doctor provides, no chronic pain patient of hers could be both willing and capable to titrate off at some of medications faster than they already are doing. Addiction has it's own timetable

Respectfully Submitted,
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