

Dear Medical Board of California,

I am a 51 year old female patient of Dr. Connie Basch of Humboldt County. I've been her patient since 2015. I inherited most of the chronic health problems in my family and did not get the right health care and emotional support growing up so I've suffered my entire life with a wide variety of conditions. I have been to doctors in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee and California. Dr. Basch has diagnosed and is successfully treating several conditions which had gone undiagnosed and untreated for most of my adult life. I believe her extensive education and experience along with her thoroughness and diligence is helping me figure out how to manage my health problems better. She goes the extra mile with my indirect health issues and shows a genuine concern and care for me that I have not experienced with other doctors. Dr. Basch has made a difference in my life and many, many others. She is a compassionate person, a wise doctor and a unique and valuable asset to my community. For the first time in 51 years, I'm with a doctor who knows enough and cares enough to manage my various conditions and I hate the thought of not having Dr. Basch as my doctor.

My conditions are extensive, complicated, and often torturous. I came to see Dr. Basch hoping to find a way to improve my treatment plans for restless leg, chronic back, neck and body pain, inflammation, nerve damage, gastrointestinal imbalances, and Type I Diabetes. All of these conditions have affected my sleep dramatically leaving my quality of life at close to nothing. Dr. Basch put me on iron for the restless leg which should have been done in 1997. She found my homocysteine level high and we are effectively treating it with Methyl-Guard Plus. This blood test had never been checked prior to Dr. Basch. After several diagnostic test, she found I had been living with Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency. I'm guessing based on my symptoms, I've had this for at least 15 years. I am now taking Creon for my digestion. These are issues that should have been diagnosed and treated a long time before Dr. Basch and I continue to suffer today because of the missed diagnosis, but hope in time these treatments will continue to make more and more of a difference.

I believe Dr. Basch's education and experience give her insight into my complicated medical history in a way that I have not had before. She is helping me figure out what is wrong and we are working together to improve my crazy imbalances. My health struggles go back to childhood and things are not going to change overnight, but I think we are making progress. For the first time in years, my HgbA1c is below 7. I've been able to sleep a little more at night. My inflammation has improved, and I've seen an increase in my energy level. I still have a lot of work to do, but Dr. Basch respects the fact that I can only handle so much and that my body is exhausted from all the stress of having so many imbalances for so long. She knows it's up to me to help myself, but she continues to educate me and provide me with choices to try with hopes of improving all my intertwined conditions.

Along with managing, diagnosing and treating my health conditions, Dr. Basch helped me get into low income housing and every year fills out the paperwork I need to stay there. She encouraged me and helped me get a dog who provides me a reason to keep trying. She finds the least expensive options for my medicines and supplements, consistently deals with my prescriptions and Medicare needs, and she recognizes and tries to work within my financial constraints. She emails me in between office visits when I have a problem or even just a question. She recognizes

my needs are numerous, complicated and frustrating and knows how to support me in an effective way so I am able to continue to live independently.

Bottom line, after my experiences with numerous doctors throughout the country, I feel very fortunate to have Dr. Basch as my doctor. She knows what she is doing more than my previous health care providers and she is compassionate. She recognizes the complexity of my issues and works extremely hard trying to figure out how to help me manage my health better. We need Dr. Basch practicing medicine in Humboldt County. There are not enough doctor's as it is, especially ones who practices Integrative Medicine. Dr. Basch is a perfect doctor for the patients in my community and deserves everyone's support in her quest for helping others.

Sincerely,

