



State of Arizona
Board of Homeopathic Medical Examiners

1400 W. Washington, Room 230 Phoenix, AZ 85007
Telephone (602) 542-3095 Fax (602) 542-3093

COPY

July 22, 2003

Abram Ber MD(H)
5011 North Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85250

LETTER OF CONCERN

RE: Investigation No. 03-08
P.C. vs. Abram Ber MD(H)

Dear Dr. Ber:

At a meeting held May 13, 2003, the Board conducted an investigative interview concerning the above referenced matter. Following discussion the Board voted to issue you a non-disciplinary *Letter of Concern*. A *Letter of Concern* is defined at A.R.S. §32-2901(13) as an advisory letter to notify a physician that, while there is insufficient evidence to support disciplinary action, the board believes the physician should modify or eliminate certain practices.

The referenced complaint was received by the Board on February 3, 2003. At the March 11, 2003 regular meeting, the Board reviewed documentation provided by you and the complainant and voted to conduct an investigative interview pursuant to A.R.S. 32-2934.C. The Board noted that the complainant lived in Florida and had been referred to your care by a mutual friend. An oral medical history was taken over the phone and the complainant provided a swab of saliva fluids that, when analyzed, indicated the presence of parasites. The complainant had also informed you of prior radiation treatments in the colon. After analyzing the results of the swab, you prescribed an electronic capsule known as the Sputnik that when swallowed, travels through the alimentary canal and kills and expels parasites. The complainant acknowledged researching the Internet to obtain information on the Sputnik and although still hesitant, decided to take the Sputnik capsule. She required surgery when the capsule was unable to pass her diseased ileo-cecal valve.

Following a review of the available information, the Board voted to issue a *Letter of Concern*. Their decision was predicated on a concern that an inadequate physical examination (other than a swab of saliva fluids) had been conducted when viewed in light of the disclosure that the patient had informed you of a history of prior radiation treatments in the colon. While there was insufficient evidence to conclude a violation of A.R.S. 32-2933., the Board expressed concern that the lack of a physical examination

may have placed the safety of the complainant in doubt when she ingested the Sputnik capsule.

With the issuance of this letter a copy of which will be retained in your license file, this matter will be administratively closed. Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,


Christine Springer
Executive Director

Cc: Marc Harris, Assistant Attorney General