

Panel Memorandum

To: Inquiry Panel B

From: Michael S. Rodman *MSR*
Assistant Executive Director

Date: July 21, 2004

Re: Ralph A. Alvarado, M.D.
475 Shoppers Drive
Winchester KY 40391
Loma Linda University School of Medicine 1994
Original Licensing State: KY
Date Licensed in KY: 7/1/1995
License #: P4009
Specialty: Internal Medicine
Grievance Number: 05005
Investigation Initiated: 7/13/04

Action Requested: The Panel is asked to determine whether an investigation should be initiated regarding this grievance filed against Ralph A. Alvarado, M.D., by [REDACTED]. Dr. Alvarado was provided a copy of this grievance and his response is attached for your consideration.

Summary: [REDACTED] filed a grievance against Dr. Alvarado alleging that he intimidated her family and treated them in a rude and unprofessional manner.

Previous Action: Dr. Alvarado has had four grievances filed against him in the past, one found to be an instance of misconduct not warranting a Compliant and three were no action cases. The Panel also reviewed Dr. Alvarado's 2004 renewal application concerning his relationship with Clark Regional Medical Center on July 15, 2004. After review of that information, the Panel voted to allow Dr. Alvarado to renew his license.

Attachments

Grievance typed
Ralph A. Alvarado, M.D.

My 73-year-old sister, [REDACTED] was being seen by Dr. Alvarado 6-2-04 for medical clearance for hip surgery the following day (St Joe East, Lexington). Dr. Alvarado was covering for Dr. Blumefield, my sister's primary care provider. My sister asked Dr. Alvarado to be admitted back to Clark Regional Medical Center's ICU in Winchester for rehabilitative care following surgery. He began a 10-15 minute tirade against the CRMC facility, staff, and Board. He was very obnoxious and told blatant slanderous lies. He could have just said, "I don't admit there," but instead intimidated my family—we were too fearful to respond to him because my sister had to be cared for.

My sister, myself, my great-niece, [REDACTED] her husband [REDACTED] and their two young daughters were victims to his verbal abuse of our community hospital and staff. He stated, "Poor quality of care—unsafe care." "He said that CRMC changed policy on smoking versus correcting an unsafe situation of mental patient smoking in a room. He said that the facility discarded an x-ray report that was wrong versus correcting the report. A violation of federal law. He said that the Board was just a few small-town community members that received a little money and a once-a-year trip to Ashland and they wouldn't give that little piece of money up to listen to the doctors and do things right. He said that CRMC staff was incompetent—left over remnants from good facilities. He said that the problem was that CRMC was not-for-profit and did not have to answer to anyone. He said he hoped St. Joe East—a for profit organization would buy CRMC out—that would solve that."

Patients are supposed to have the right of choice, feeling of security, and right to participate in care not be verbally harassed? Fact—St. Joe East not-for-profit, Dr. Alvarado lies about this as well as all above. Complaints also give to Mr. Streety at St. Joe East, Lexington.