



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH Board of Physicians

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
4201 Patterson Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2222

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor – Michael S. Steele, Lt. Governor – S. Anthony McCann, Secretary

October 3, 2006

Mark Geier, M.D.
14 Redgate Court
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905

Re: Lisa Randall

Dear Dr. Geier:

Pursuant to the Medical Practice Act, the Board of Physicians (the "Board") is responsible for assuring that licensed physicians render competent medical care to the citizens of Maryland and comply with all statutory and regulatory requirements governing the practice of medicine in Maryland.

This letter is to inform you that a complaint has been filed against you with the Board. Based on the allegations, the Board has opened a preliminary investigation. Enclosed is a copy of the complaint.

The Board is requesting a written response to the allegations contained in the complaint. This response must be signed or co-signed by you and should be received by the Board no later than twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of this letter.

Please send this response to my attention at the above address. If you need further assistance, you may contact me at 410-764-2480.

Sincerely,

Carol Palmer
Supervisor, Intake Unit

cc: Nicole Livingston, Secretary

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To: Maryland Board of Physicians - Intake Unit
4201 Patterson Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215

AUG 15 2006

cc: Jack Schwartz, Health Policy Development Unit, Maryland Attorney General
Aetna, Blue Cross / Blue Shield, CIGNA, UnitedHealth Group
The Baltimore Sun

BOARD OF PHYSICIANS

August 14, 2006

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Board:

I have become aware of serious allegations against a Maryland physician's ethical behavior and professional judgment. I am not his patient, nor do I have a family member under his care, but the risk appears to be of a magnitude that would justify intervention before harm occurs.

The physician in question is Mark Robin Geier, M.D., board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology. His home and business address is 14 Redgate Court, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20905, telephone (301) 989-0548. He works in conjunction with his son, David Geier, a non-physician.

Dr. Geier enthusiastically promotes to laypersons the use of the drug Lupron as a treatment for autistic children on the dubious premises that (1) autism is really mercury poisoning; (2) testosterone both increases the toxicity of mercury and makes it harder to dislodge from the body via chelation therapy, itself a non-mainstream therapy for autism; and (3) suppressing autistic children's testosterone will allow chelation to cure their autism.

Kathleen Seidel has described this novel concept in a series of meticulously documented articles published on her web site, which I have summarized in an attachment to this letter; an online reading of the articles will allow Board members to verify some facts via linked documents. If Ms. Seidel's findings are accurate, Dr. Geier has done all of the following:

- Practiced far afield of his actual expertise and outside of the prevailing standard of care for autism
- Provided medical advice via telephone to clients in states where he is not licensed
- Experimented on children without a rational scientific theory or the supervision of a qualified review board
- Deprived his patients and their parents of the ability to give meaningful informed consent by downplaying the potential side effects of Lupron and exaggerating its curative potential
- Encouraged parents to seek diagnoses of central precocious puberty from their home doctors in order for their Lupron prescriptions to be covered by insurance
- Inflated the qualifications of his son as a co-author of an academic journal article, and mischaracterized and plagiarized the work of academic researchers
- Failed to disclose that he was pursuing a patent on the "Lupron protocol" and thus financially interested in reported outcomes

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Also of interest may be a recent court decision in which the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina excluded Dr. Geier's expert testimony on multiple grounds, including his lack of knowledge about autism. The court noted that he

was not even successful in sitting for his Medical Board examination in the specific field of pediatric genetics....Thus, there is a threshold question as to whether Dr. Geier is even qualified to perform a differential diagnosis so as to give a causation opinion with respect to the cause of a neurological disorder such as autism. ... Dr. Geier does not even profess to be...an expert on autism.

The opinion is archived at <http://www.ncmd.uscourts.gov/Opinions/Jul06/03cv669op.pdf>.

I am copying this letter to the Attorney General's Office and several major health insurers because of the possibility that Dr. Geier's conduct constitutes insurance fraud in addition to professional misconduct, and to the Baltimore Sun because I believe Dr. Geier's conduct is a matter of vital interest to anyone who, like me, cares about the health and safety of children.

Sincerely,



Lisa Randall
3402 Birch Hollow Road
Pikesville, MD 21208
(410) 484-7324
lisa_randall@prodigy.net

003**Seidel Articles on Mark R. Geier, M.D.****Page 1**Autism & Lupron: Playing with Fire - 2/19/06

About the role played by journalists in the dissemination of scientific misinformation about autism, and the early development of Mark and David Geier's "Lupron protocol."

<http://www.neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/83>

Patent Medicine - 4/5/06

About Mark and David Geier's applications to patent the "Lupron protocol."

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/94>

An Inaccurate Byline - 6/9/06

About the curious appearance of a misleading statement of institutional affiliation in the byline of an article published in the journal *Hormone Research*.

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/97>

An Elusive Institute - 6/20/06

About the "Institute for Chronic Illnesses" and its Institutional Review Board, established by Mark Geier to supervise his and his son's own research, with members drawn from the ranks of patients' parents, business associates, and political allies.

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/98>

A Dubious Diagnosis - 6/26/06

About the increase in numbers of autistic children diagnosed with central precocious puberty and administered Lupron, and the criteria according to which those diagnoses are being proffered.

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/99>

On Questionable Terms - 6/29/06

About the shifting terminology used by Mark and David Geier to refer to the "condition" supposedly experienced by autistic children being treated with Lupron, raising questions about the means by which insurance companies are being persuaded to reimburse the costs of treatment.

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/100>

Testimony of the Faithful - 7/12/06

About the assistance provided to Mark and David Geier by various political allies in promoting the "Lupron protocol."

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/103>

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Seidel Articles on Mark R. Geier, M.D.**Page 2****A Republished Article - 7/13/04**

About the amendment and republication of Mark and David Geier's article by Hormone Research, in spite of documented irregularities with their Institutional Review Board.

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/104>

Desperation Time - 7/20/06

A partial transcript of an interview with Mark Geier on the conspiracy talk show, Radio Liberty. Includes claims that treatment with Lupron "makes autism disappear."

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/106>

The Citations Are Not What They Seem - 7/24/06

About the manner in which Mark and David Geier cite the work of other researchers to substantiate their claims about the "Lupron protocol."

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/107>

Bibliographic Mergers and Acquisitions - 8/10/06

About the striking similarities between two articles written by Mark and David Geier, and a draft of a study by researchers at the Centers for Disease Control.

<http://neurodiversity.com/weblog/article/108>

This series is ongoing.