

**BEFORE THE OREGON  
STATE BOARD OF NURSING**

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| <b>In the Matter of<br/>Jody Lindwall, NMNP</b> | <b>) STIPULATED ORDER FOR<br/>) SUSPENSION AND PROBATION OF<br/>NMNP CERTIFICATE<br/>)<br/>) Reference No. 14-01941</b> |
| <b>License No. 200650100NP</b>                  |   |

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The Oregon State Board of Nursing (Board) is the state agency responsible for licensing, regulating and disciplining certain health care providers, including Nurse Practitioners. Jody Lindwall was issued a Nurse Practitioner Certificate by the Board on July 20, 2006.

On or about June 17, 2014, the Board received information that Ms. Lindwall was the subject of a lawsuit claiming that she failed to assess and diagnose a patient. The patient was a 35 year old woman who was approximately 19 weeks pregnant.

On December 20, 2011, the patient was evaluated by Ms. Lindwall at the clinic. The night before the patient had contacted the on-call practitioner to report having had a “gush” of fluid and experiencing flu-like symptoms. The on-call practitioner provided advice, including to be seen at the clinic the following day.

The patient arrived at the clinic, was placed in an examination room and had her vital signs taken by a medical assistant. Prior to entering the exam room, Ms. Lindwall reviewed the patient’s chart and read the note about the patient’s call the night before. Ms. Lindwall assessed the patient’s overall presentation, listened for the baby’s heartbeat and performed an examination, using a sterile speculum. Ms. Lindwall ordered a uterine ultrasound and tested and examined the characteristics of fluid. Lab work was also done, for the purpose of establishing a baseline of blood count, according to Ms. Lindwall.

After review of the ultrasound and consultation with a clinic physician, Ms. Lindwall correctly determined that the patient had experienced preterm premature rupture of membranes (PPROM) and that the fetus was not viable.

Ms. Lindwall explained the diagnosis to the patient and her husband and provided them with the available options; labor induction, dilation and evacuation (D & E) or return home for expectant management. The patient and her husband were undecided as they left the appointment, but agreed to contact the clinic the following day with their decision.

The patient’s condition worsened and at approximately 9:00 pm on December 20, 2011, she was admitted to Providence St. Vincent Hospital and delivered a nonviable fetus with misoprostol induction. The patient rapidly developed severe sepsis, which converted to septic shock requiring transfer to Intensive Care Unit (ICU). In ICU, the patient continued to experience rapid clinical decline, with multi-organ failure and distal ischemia from disseminated intravascular coagulation, high doses of pressor support and severe systemic

inflammation from overwhelming sepsis. Consequently, she underwent amputations of her legs below the knee and nine fingers.

During the patient's visit to the clinic on December 20, 2011, Ms. Lindwall had confirmed PPRM. The patient was afebrile at the visit, but she had reported chills and feeling achy. The patient's blood pressure was 110/60, with a pulse pressure of 50 which may indicate infection.

Finally, whether there was uterine tenderness or not was not documented and there was no note indicating the patient had received instructions about infection risk, identification or necessity for evaluation. Ms. Lindwall recalled that there was no uterine tenderness and that she had provided the above mentioned instructions to the patient, but acknowledged the documentation does not reflect this.

By the above actions, Licensee is subject to discipline pursuant to ORS 678.111 (1) (f) and OAR 851-045-0070 (1) (b), (c) and (d); and (3) (b), which provides as follows:

ORS 678.111 Causes for denial, revocation or suspension of license or probation, reprimand or censure of licensee.

In the manner prescribed in ORS chapter 183 for a contested case:

- (1) Issuance of the license to practice nursing, whether by examination or by indorsement, of any person may be refused or the license may be revoked or suspended or the licensee may be placed on probation for a period specified by the Oregon State Board of Nursing and subject to such condition as the board may impose or may be issued a limited license or may be reprimanded or censured by the board, for any of the following causes:
  - (f) Conduct derogatory to the standards of nursing.

OAR 851-045-0070

Nurses, regardless of role, whose behavior fails to conform to the legal standard and accepted standards of the nursing profession, or who may adversely affect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, may be found guilty of conduct derogatory to the standards of nursing. Such conduct shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- (1) Conduct related to the client's safety and integrity:
  - (b) Failing to take action to preserve or promote the client's safety based on nursing assessment and judgment.
- (3) Conduct related to communication:
  - (b) Incomplete recordkeeping regarding client care; including, but not limited to, failure to document care given or other information important to the client's care or documentation which is inconsistent with the care given.

Licensee wishes to cooperate with the Board in this matter. Therefore, the following will be proposed to the Oregon State Board of Nursing and is agreed to by Licensee:

**That the Nurse Midwife Nurse Practitioner Certificate of Jody Lindwall be suspended for thirty (30) days. Suspension is deemed served effective the date the Board approves**

**this Stipulated agreement. In addition, Ms. Lindwall is placed on probation for twenty-four (24) months. Probation is deemed served effective the date the Board approves this Stipulated agreement. Ms. Lindwall will also provide the Board with a protocol for evaluating PPRM and associated infection and provide an inservice outline she will use for teaching students in her clinic preceptorial program.**

Licensee understands that the conduct resulting in the violations of law described in this Order are considered by the Board to be of a grave nature and, if continued, constitutes a serious danger to public health and safety.

Licensee understands that in the event she engages in future conduct resulting in violations of law or the Nurse Practice Act, the Board may take further disciplinary action against her license, up to and including revocation of her license to practice as a Nurse Practitioner.

Licensee understands that this Order will be submitted to the Board of Nursing for its approval and is subject to the Board's confirmation.

Licensee understands that by signing this Stipulated Order, she waives the right to an administrative hearing under ORS 183.310 to 183.540, and to any judicial review or appeal thereof. Licensee acknowledges that no promises, representations, duress or coercion have been used to induce her to sign this Order.

Licensee understands that this Order is a document of public record.

Licensee has read this Stipulated Order, understands this Order completely, and freely signs this Stipulated Order.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jody Lindwall, NP

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Date

**ORDER**

IT IS SO ORDERED:

**BOARD OF NURSING FOR THE STATE OF OREGON**

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Gary Hickmann, RN  
Board President

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Date