

**POSITION STATEMENT  
TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE OR PROCEDURES WITHOUT EVIDENCE OF  
SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN BENEFIT THAT ARE EFFECTIVE AND LOW RISK**

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Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 63-6-214 (b) (1), (3), (4), (8) and (9) provide ground upon which the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners may take licensure disciplinary action against a licensee and provide as follows:

- (1) *Unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct;*
- (3) *Making false statements or representations, being guilty or deceit in obtaining admission to practice, or being guilty of fraud or deceit in the practice of medicine;*
- (4) *Gross malpractice, or a pattern of continued or repeated malpractice, ignorance, negligence of incompetence in the course of medical practice;*
- (8) *The advertising of medical business in which untrue or misleading statements are made, or causing the publication or circulation of fraudulent advertising relative to any disease, human ailment or conditions;*
- (9) *Willful violation of the rules and regulations promulgated by the board of medical examiners to regulate advertising by practitioners who are under the jurisdiction of such board.*

The Board of Medical Examiners hereby states its position on the interpretation of those laws and rules in regards to the use of Chelation, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or other unproven agents to be as follows:

That the use of EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid), H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and other agents in the clinical setting by delivering the medicine through parenteral or oral routes beyond its FDA approved as effective and low risk without support of the scientific literature contained within the National Library of Medicine, or certainly much more than anecdotal evidence of its effective use in the treatment of a disease or medical condition for which a licensee uses it may be considered to be a violation of T.C.A. 63-6-214 (b) (1), (3) and (4). However, EDTA may be used in the clinical setting when a licensee experienced in clinical investigations has applied for and received from the Board written approval for a carefully controlled clinical investigation of its effectiveness in treating diseases or medical conditions other than those approved by the FDA under a protocol satisfactory to the Board to be conducted in an academic institution.

That the advertising of the administration of the EDTA, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and other agents not shown to be effective and/or low risk in any matter to prevent or cure diseases or medical conditions without support of the scientific literature contained within the National Library of Medicine or certainly much more than anecdotal evidence of its effective use in treatment of a disease or medical condition for which a licensee advertises it may be considered to be violation of T.C.A. 63-6-214 (b) (3), (8), and (9) and /or the rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

**Adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2005.**

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David Cunningham, MD, President  
Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners