

**Physician Assistant Board
Section 100**

Amend title 16, California Code of Regulations, § 1399.523, “Disciplinary Guidelines,” as follows:

(a) In reaching a decision on a disciplinary action under the Administrative Procedure Act (Government Code Section 11400 et seq.), the Physician Assistant Board shall consider the disciplinary guidelines entitled “Physician Assistant Board Manual of Model Disciplinary Guidelines and Model Disciplinary Orders” 4th Edition 2015~~6~~, which are hereby incorporated by reference. Subject to the limitations of subsection (c), deviation from these guidelines and orders, including the standard terms of probation, is appropriate where the Physician Assistant Board, in its sole discretion, determines that the facts of the particular case warrant such a deviation—for example: the presence of mitigating factors; the age of the case; evidentiary problems.

(b) Notwithstanding the disciplinary guidelines, any proposed decision issued in accordance with the procedures set forth in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 11500) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code that contains any finding of fact that the licensee engaged in any act of sexual contact, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 729 of the Code, with a patient, or any finding that the licensee has committed a sex offense or been convicted of a sex offense as defined in Section 44010 of the Education Code, shall contain an order revoking the license. The proposed decision shall not contain an order staying the revocation of the license.

(c) If the conduct found to be a violation involves drugs, alcohol, or both, and the individual is permitted to practice under conditions of probation, a clinical diagnostic evaluation shall be ordered as a condition of probation in every case, without deviation.

(1) Each of the “Conditions Applying the Uniform Standards,” as set forth in the model disciplinary orders, shall be included in any order subject to this subsection, but may be imposed contingent upon the outcome of the clinical diagnostic evaluation.

(2) The Substance Abuse Coordination Committee’s *Uniform Standards Regarding Substance Abusing Healing Arts Licensees* (4/2011) (Uniform Standards), which are hereby incorporated by reference, shall be used in applying the probationary conditions imposed pursuant to this subsection.

(d) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Board from imposing additional terms or conditions of probation in any order that the Board determines would provide greater public protection.

NOTE: Authority cited: Sections 3510, 3527, 3528, 3529, 3530, 3531, 3532 and 3533, Business and Professions Code; and Section 11400.20, Government Code. Reference:

Section 11400.20 and 11425.50(e), Government Code; and Sections 315, 315.2, 315.4, 729, 3527, 3528, 3529, 3530, 3531, 3532, and 3533, Business and Professions Code.