

Bibliography/Links – State Medical Boards
Compiled by Carol Cronin for the Medical Board Roundtable
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NOTE: This is a list of organizations and articles providing information about state medical boards – with a particular focus on their effectiveness and consumer focus. It is not meant to be exhaustive, but rather to provide an overview of key information and articles on the topic. **Those highlighted in yellow have been added since the last update.** For more information, contact Carol Cronin, Chair – Medical Board Roundtable: c.cronin@comcast.net

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CONSUMER INFORMATION

Certification Matters – site maintained by American Board of Medical Specialties that provides information on doctors who are Board Certified

<https://www.certificationmatters.org/find-my-doctor/>

Citizen Advocacy Center

Assisting public members and the health professional oversight bodies on which they serve
(NOTE: organization inactive, but website maintained)

<http://www.cacenter.org/>

DocInfo – sponsored by the Federation of State Medical Boards – provides information on where doctors are licensed and whether they have any board actions. Then have to find information on individual state sites.

<http://www.docinfo.org/>

Medical Board Roundtable/Patient Safety Action Network (PSAN) – a national coalition of patient and consumer advocates interested in increasing public awareness and responsiveness of state medical boards to patients, families and the public.

<https://www.patientsafetyaction.org/our-work/physician-oversight-and-accountability/>

Other PSAN Resources: <https://www.patientsafetyaction.org/resources/>

JOURNAL ARTICLES

AbuDagga, Azza; Wolfe, St.; Carome, M. & Oshel, R. *Cross Sectional Analysis of the 1039 U.S. Physicians Reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank for Sexual Misconduct, 2003–2013*

PLOS One, February 3, 2016.
<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0147800>

Dubois, James; Anderson, Emily et al.
Serious Ethical Violations in Medicine: A Statistical and Ethical Analysis of 280 Cases in the United States from 2008 – 2016

American Journal of Bioethics, January 25, 2019

<http://www.bioethics.net/articles/serious-ethical-violations-in-medicine-a-statistical-and-ethical-analysis-of-280-cases-in-the-united-states-from-2008-2016/>

NOTE: Volume 19 (January 2019) has many stories on Sexual/other Ethical Violations by Physicians
<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uajb20/19/1>

Grant, Darren and Alfred, Kelly

Sanctions and Recidivism: An Evaluation of Physician Discipline by State Medical Boards

Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law, Vol. 32, No. 5, October 2007

This article descriptively assesses how physicians are disciplined by state medical boards throughout the United States, drawing on a nationwide database of sanctions delivered during the period 1994 – 2002.

<https://read.dukeupress.edu/jhpl/article-abstract/32/5/867/65671/Sanctions-and-Recidivism-An-Evaluation-of?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Harris, J. & Byhoff, E.(Univ. Of MI), ***Variations by state in physician disciplinary actions by US medical licensure boards***

BMJ Quality and Safety, 3/23/16

<http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2016/03/18/bmjqs-2015-004974#aff-2>

Also reported here:

<http://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-03-doctors-badly-state-team-wide.html>

And here is editorial about the study from the BMJ: "Disciplined Doctors: Learning from the Pain of the Past"

<http://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/2016/05/04/bmjqs-2016-005589.full>

Hyman, D., Rahmati, M. & Black, B.

Medical Malpractice and Physician Discipline: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Social Science Research Network, 6/29/18

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3205708

JAMA Issue on Physician Professionalism and Governance, 5/12/15

<http://jama.jamanetwork.com/issue.aspx?journalid=67&issueid=933933>

Kohatsu, N., Gould, D & Ross, L.

Characteristics Associated with Physician Discipline – A Case Control Study

Archives of Internal Medicine, 3/22/04

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamainternalmedicine/fullarticle/216839>

Liu, J. & Hyman, D.

Targeting Bad Doctors: Lessons from Indiana 1975-2015

Social Science Research Network, 1/29/18

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2994529

Strong, DE

Access to Enforcement and Disciplinary Data: Information Practices of State Health Professional Regulatory Boards of Dentistry, Medicine and Nursing

Journal of Health and Human Services Administration 2011 Spring; 33 (4): 534-70

ABSTRACT:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Denise+E.+Strong#>

NATIONAL REPORTS/ARTICLES

Atlanta Journal Constitution

Doctors and the Opioid Crisis: An AJC National Investigation, December 2017

<http://www.ajc.com/news/public-affairs/doctors-and-the-opioid-crisis-ajc-national-investigation/qH23FJOrPnqSQzO9h6seuJ/>

State Discipline of Physicians: Assessing State Medical Boards through Case Studies, February 2006

Bovberg, R & Aliaga, P. (Urban Institute) and Gittler, J (University of Iowa College of Law)

Prepared for Dept. of Health and Human Services, ASPE

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/system/files/pdf/74616/stdiscp.pdf>

Doctors Protecting Their Own

CBS News

Part I: 1/4/21, <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/cbs-news-finds-medical-boards-often-fail-to-discipline-doctors-for-malpractice/>

Part II: 1/5/21: <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/medical-boards-often-protect-doctors-over-patients-cbs-news-finds/>

Cronin, C. (Informed Patient Institute), McGiffert, L. (Patient Safety Action Network)

Looking for Doctor Information Online: A Survey and Ranking of State Medical and Osteopathic Board Websites in 2021, January 2021

<https://www.patientsafetyaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Looking-for-Doctor-Information-Online-1-7-22.pdf>

Cronin, C. (Informed Patient Institute), McGiffert, L. & Henry, S. (Safe Patient Project, Consumer Reports)

Seeking Doctor Information Online: A Survey and Ranking of State Medical and Osteopathic Board Websites in 2015, March 2016

<https://www.informedpatientinstitute.org/Seeking%20Doctor%20Information%20Online.pdf>

Federation of State Medical Boards

US Medical Medical Licensing and Disciplinary Data

<https://www.fsmb.org/u.s.-medical-regulatory-trends-and-actions/state-medical-board-data/>

Federation of State Medical Boards

Guidelines for the Structure and Function of a State Medical and Osteopathic Board, May 2021

<https://www.fsmb.org/siteassets/advocacy/policies/guidelines-for-the-structure-and-function-of-a-state-medical-and-osteopathic-board.pdf>

GAO

VA Health Care - Improved Policies and Oversight Needed for Reviewing and Reporting Providers for Quality and Safety Concerns, November 2017

<https://www.gao.gov/assets/690/688378.pdf>

MEDPAGE TODAY

Medicare Slow to Boot Docs with State Sanctions, 5/17/18

<https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/states-of-disgrace/72923>

States of Disgrace: A Flawed System Fails to Inform the Public, 2/28/18

<https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/statesofdisgrace/71418>

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

FDA warning letters to doctors flag serious problems, but state medical boards do nothing, 8/17/18

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/2018/08/16/doctors-warned-fda-but-state-medical-boards-state-boards-fail-act/963651002/>

Prescription for Secrecy: Is Your Doctor Banned From Practicing in Other States?, 2/28/18

<https://projects.jsonline.com/news/2018/2/28/is-your-doctor-banned-from-practicing-in-other-states.html>

New York Review

Licensed to Pill, 7/21/20

<https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2020/07/21/licensed-to-pill/>

(Also see below- TN: This American Life)

Office of Inspector General – DHHS

List of publications on "Medical Boards and Licensure" (1986 - 1999)

http://oig.hhs.gov/reports-and-publications/oei/m.asp#medical_boards

State Medical Boards and Medical Discipline (August 1990)

<https://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-01-89-00560.pdf>

Propublica

How to Investigate Doctors, 1/8/15

<http://projects.propublica.org/graphics/investigating-doctors>

Public Citizen/Health Research Group

Ranking of the Rate of State Medical Boards' Serious Disciplinary Actions, 2019-2021. 8/23

https://www.citizen.org/wp-content/uploads/230816_StateMedicalDisciplinaryReport.pdf

State Medical Boards Fail to Discipline Doctors with Hospital Actions Against Them, 3/11

<https://www.citizen.org/article/state-medical-boards-fail-to-discipline-doctors-with-hospital-actions-against-them/>

2006 Report of Doctor Disciplinary Information on State Web Sites

<https://www.citizen.org/our-work/health-and-safety/2006-report-doctor-disciplinary-information-state-web-sites>

USA Today

VA Failed to Report 90% of Potentially Dangerous Medical Providers, GAO Confirms, 11/17

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/11/27/va-failed-report-90-potentially-dangerous-medical-providers-gao-confirms/890582001/>

Thousands of doctors practicing despite errors, misconduct, 8/20/13

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/08/20/doctors-licenses-medical-boards/2655513/>

WYNC

Imminent Danger: One Doctor and a Trail of Injured Women, Oct./Nov. 2023

<https://www.wync.org/shows/nyc-now/imminent-danger>

NATL./STATE REPORTS/ARTICLES – SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

AL

Sexual Misconduct by Doctors: Alabama Law Keeps Patients in the Dark

AL.com, 8/9/18

https://www.al.com/news/index.ssf/2018/08/sexual_misconduct_at_the_hands.html

AZ

Misconduct accusations against this Arizona doctor span a generation. But he kept his medical license

Arizona Republic, 12/13/23

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/arizona-investigations/2023/12/13/michael-ridge-doctor-misconduct-allegations/71783514007/>

CA

A Doctor Allegedly Whispered to His Patient That She Looked Like a ‘Sexy Librarian

The Atlantic, 12/13/2018

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2018/12/doctors-sexual-assault-california/578014/>

GA/NATIONAL

Doctors and Sex Abuse – Overall Series:

http://doctors.ajc.com/table_of_contents/

State Report Cards

<http://doctors.ajc.com/states/>

Atlanta Journal Constitution, 2016

ID

Surgeon’s arrest for sexual battery a ‘catalyst’ for Idaho health care workers to talk about abuse

Idaho Capital Sun, 2/27/23

https://idahocapitalsun.com/2023/02/27/surgeons-arrest-for-sexual-battery-a-catalyst-for-idaho-health-care-workers-to-talk-about-abuse/?fbclid=IwAR0KjAJrk8fOxW6OJ5VnV-4GrcObmLpIHrcRgSDRL6UrIJNLqVjs_9ldsUk

IL

Doctors Operate Unchecked (A Chicago Tribune series on how state regulators and the criminal justice

system allow doctors to continue practicing despite allegations of sexual misconduct.)

Chicago Tribune, 2010 - 2011

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2010/06/20/doctor-sexual-abuser-or-both/>

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2010/10/06/sex-offending-doctors-left-on-honor-system-2/>

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2010/11/29/illinois-takes-steps-to-stop-doctors-who-sexually-abuse-patients/>

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2010/12/27/doctor-sex-misconduct-cases-monitored-in-secrecy-4/>

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/2011/01/17/illinois-disciplinary-flaws-highlighted-in-doctors-sex-case/>

MI

Believed - Podcast about Larry Nassar case in Michigan

Michigan Public Radio, 2018-2021

<https://believed.michiganradio.org/>

NATIONAL

Report and Recommendations of the FSMB Workgroup on Physician Sexual Misconduct, May 2020

Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)

<https://www.fsmb.org/siteassets/advocacy/policies/report-of-workgroup-on-sexual-misconduct-adopted-version.pdf>

Communicating about Physician Sexual Misconduct: How are State Medical Boards Doing?, June 2022

Informed Patient Institute/Patient Safety Action Network

<https://www.patientsafetyaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Final-Report-PSAN-Physician-Sexual-misconduct-6-13-22.pdf>

15 Year Summary of Sexual Misconduct by US Physicians to the NPDB, 2003 – 2017, May 2020

Public Citizen

<https://www.citizen.org/article/15-year-summary-of-sexual-misconduct-by-u-s-physicians-reported-to-the-national-practitioner-data-bank-2003-%E2%80%95-2017-in-depth-updated-evidence-on-white-coat-betrayal/>

NY

Protecting a Predator: How Columbia University ignored women, undermined prosecutors, and allowed one of its OB/GYNs to abuse hundreds of patients.

New York Magazine, 9/12/23

https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/columbia-obgyn-robert-hadden-sexually-assaulted-patients.html?utm_source=TMP-Newsletter&utm_campaign=a62d25a0b3-

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_09_13_11_17&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5e02cdad9d-a62d25a0b3-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D](https://nymag.com/intelligencer/article/columbia-obgyn-robert-hadden-sexually-assaulted-patients.html?utm_source=TMP-Newsletter&utm_campaign=a62d25a0b3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_09_13_11_17&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5e02cdad9d-a62d25a0b3-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

Did New York Let Doctors get away with Sexual Misconduct"

City & State New York, 2/21/21

<https://www.cityandstateny.com/policy/2021/02/did-new-york-let-doctors-get-away-with-sexual-misconduct/175162/>

OH

Preying on Patients

Columbus Dispatch, 2/23

<https://www.dispatch.com/in-depth/news/2023/02/02/preying-on-patients-hundreds-of-doctors-have-abused-harassed-ohioans/69844571007/>

OR

Sick Medicine

KGW8- Portland Oregon

<https://www.kgw.com/sickmedicine>

SC

How South Carolina doctors' sexual misconduct flies under the radar, and why patients may never know

Post and Courier, 1/28/18

https://www.postandcourier.com/features/how-south-carolina-doctors-sexual-misconduct-flies-under-the-radar/article_6ba8def8-ffc1-11e7-8645-c365221a4cf9.html#comments

TX

No Other Option

Texas Observer, 10/4/21

<https://www.texasobserver.org/no-other-option/>

UT

94 Women Allege a Utah Doctor Sexually Assaulted Them. Here's Why a Judge Threw Out Their Case.

Salt Lake Tribune/ProPublica, 2/22/23

<https://www.propublica.org/article/94-utah-women-sue-obgyn-for-sexual-assault-judge-tosses-case>

WA

Discipline delayed: Washington state struggles to stop sexual misconduct in health care, leaving patients vulnerable

Seattle Times, 11/28/21

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/times-watchdog/discipline-delayed-washington-state-struggles-to-crack-down-on-health-providers-sexual-misconduct/>

STATE REPORTS/ARTICLES

CA:

The Medical Farce of CA: 40+ Years of Problems with California's Medical Board: Sunset Review 2017 (2/17/17)

Eric Andrist and Marian Hollingsworth

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1evuYpLqWGNWFKmTy3nk4DjP8CF9H1w9IOneyW88bpok/edit>

Governor Brown Signs Landmark Law Requiring Doctors on Probation to Notify Patients

Consumer Reports Advocacy, Press Release 9/19/18

https://advocacy.consumerreports.org/press_release/governor-brown-signs-landmark-law-requiring-doctors-on-probation-to-notify-patients/

FL:

Dangerous Doctors: Malpractice Lawsuits Rarely Lead to Discipline

Sun Sentinel (Broward and Palm Beach FL), 11/17/17

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/health/fl-florida-doctor-discipline-lawsuits-20171116-story.html>

GA:

Georgia Composite Medical Board – Physician Oversight

Report of GA Dept. Of Audits and Accounts – Performance Audit Division, (11/2020)

https://www.audits.ga.gov/PAO/19-14_GCMB.html

HI:

Ailing Oversight,

Series of articles and a video (11/8/15-11/10/15)

Honolulu Star Advertiser

<http://www.staradvertiser.com/ailing-oversight/>

IL:

Many Illinois doctor investigations originate in other states (1/7/14)

Chicago Tribune (may have to register)

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-doctor-discipline-met-20140107-story.html#page=1>

ME:

Our View: Maine state medical board failing to ensure accountability

Portland Press Herald, 3/19/16

<http://www.pressherald.com/2016/03/09/our-view-maine-state-medical-board-failing-to-ensure-accountability/>

Maine medical board criticized for procedures in Falmouth psychiatrist case

Portland Press Herald, 3/19/16

<http://www.pressherald.com/2016/03/06/maine-medical-board-criticized-for-procedures-in-falmouth-psychiatrist-case/>

MN

State medical board is a campaign target

Minnesota Star Tribune, 7/16/22

<https://www.startribune.com/state-medical-board-is-a-campaign-target/600190894/>

MS:

Doctors of Deception(1/22/19)

WLBT 3 on Your Side Investigation

<https://www.wlbt.com/2019/02/21/your-side-investigates-doctors-deception/>

NH:

A Celebrated Surgeon, a trail of secrets and death (9/7/22)

A crisis of conscience, with lives on the line (9/8/22)

Here's how to find out if your doctor has a troubled history, and what to do about it (10/3/22)

N.H. Doctor allegedly misread mammograms, ultrasounds of two dozen women later diagnosed with breast cancer (11/19/22)

Boston Globe Spotlight Investigation

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/investigations/spotlight/>

NY

A Deadly Epidural, Delivered by a Doctor With a History of Mistakes

New York Times, 1/23/23

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/23/nyregion/anesthesiologist-brooklyn-deaths.html#:~:text=New%20York%20Times-,A%20Deadly%20Epidural%2C%20Delivered%20by%20a%20Doctor%20With%20a%20History,One%20was%20fatal.>

PA/National

Unstoppable: This Doctor Has Been Investigated at Every Level of Government. How Is He Still Practicing?

ProPublica, 8/9/23

https://www.propublica.org/article/pennsylvania-doctor-investigated-at-every-level-why-is-he-still-practicing?utm_campaign=trueanthem&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook

SD:

State sets hearing to strip patient safety advocate of medical license

Argus Leader, 10/6/17

<https://www.argusleader.com/story/news/2017/10/06/state-sets-hearing-strip-patient-safety-advocate-medical-license/737739001/>

Results of state death investigation of teen disputed

Argus Leader, 3/12/16

<https://www.argusleader.com/story/news/2016/03/12/results-state-death-investigation-teen-disputed/81406252/>

TN:

Trust Me I'm a Doctor,

This American Life, 10/2/20

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/719/trust-me-im-a-doctor>

(Also see above: New York Review)

TX:

The Tale of Eric the Red

Texas Observer, 9/12/22

<https://www.texasobserver.org/rogue-surgeon-red-eric-scheffey-texas/>

Anatomy of a Tragedy: Dr. Christopher Duntsch

Texas Observer, 8/28/13

<http://www.texasobserver.org/anatomy-tragedy/>

Doctor Discipline: A Wisconsin State Journal Special Investigation

Wisconsin State Journal 1/29/13

https://host.madison.com/news/local/health_med_fit/doctor-discipline-a-wisconsin-state-journal-special-investigation/collection_915deb5c-6994-11e2-b9d8-0019bb2963f4.html

OTHER

Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB):

<http://www.fsmb.org/>

Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

<https://www.imlcc.org/>

Link to list of state medical/osteopathic boards:

<https://www.fsmb.org/contact-a-state-medical-board/>

Journal of Medical Regulation (published by FSMB)

<http://jmronline.org/?code=fsmb-site>

National Practitioner Data Bank:

<https://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/>