

**BEFORE THE
BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Statement of Issues
Against:

Case No. 6465

**PHARMEDIUM SERVICES, LLC
Sugar Land, Texas**

**Applicant for Nonresident Outsourcing
Facility Registration**

Respondent.

DECISION AND ORDER

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeval is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on July 2, 2019.

It is so ORDERED on June 3, 2019.

BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA



By

Victor Law, R.Ph.
Board President

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 LINDA K. SCHNEIDER
Senior Assistant Attorney General
3 JOSHUA A. ROOM
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
4 State Bar No. 214663
455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 11000
5 San Francisco, CA 94102-7004
Telephone: (415) 510-3512
6 Facsimile: (415) 703-5480
Attorneys for Complainant

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BOARD OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
9 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

10 In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:

Case No. 6465

11 **PHARMEDIUM SERVICES, LLC**
12 **Sugar Land, Texas**

**STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
DISCIPLINARY ORDER FOR PUBLIC
REPROVAL**

13 **Applicant for Nonresident Outsourcing
Facility Registration**

[Bus. & Prof. Code § 495]

14 Respondent.

15
16 In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public
17 interest and the responsibilities of the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs
18 (Board), the parties hereby agree to the following Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order
19 for Public Reapproval to be submitted for adoption in final disposition of the Statement of Issues.

20 **PARTIES**

21 1. Anne Sodergren (Complainant), Interim Executive Officer of the Board, continues
22 this action solely in her official capacity and is represented by Xavier Becerra, Attorney General
23 of the State of California, Joshua A. Room, Supervising Deputy Attorney General.

24 2. Respondent PharMEDium Services, LLC in Sugar Land, Texas (Respondent)¹ is
25 represented in this proceeding by attorney Jonathan Klein, of Klein, Hockel, Iezza & Patel P.C.,
26 455 Market Street, Suite 1480, San Francisco, CA 94105-2442 (telephone (415) 951-0535).

27 ¹ The Statement of Issues erroneously identified Respondent as "Amerisource Bergen
28 Corporation dba PharMEDium Services, LLC." Amerisource Bergen is Respondent's owner.

- 1 4. Respondent shall ensure visual testing of all drug preparations, and use of a black and
- 2 white board with a light for this purpose; and
- 3 5. Respondent shall identify and retain reserve samples representative of each lot in each
- 4 shipment of each active ingredient, and store same under conditions consistent with
- 5 product labeling and in the same immediate container-closure system.

6 Failure to meet any of these requirements with regard to any products or preparations
7 shipped into or within California after the effective date of this decision shall be deemed
8 unprofessional conduct and cause for further discipline against Respondent.


9 IT IS FURTHER HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent shall, within six (6) months of
10 issuance of the license, undergo an inspection by an external entity approved in advance by the
11 Board for this purpose, to determine compliance with all above requirements as well as all
12 applicable requirements of state and federal law. A copy of the inspection report shall be
13 provided to the Board immediately upon completion. Failure to timely: submit a proposed entity
14 to the Board for approval; undergo the inspection; or provide the inspection report, shall be
15 deemed unprofessional conduct and cause for further discipline against Respondent.

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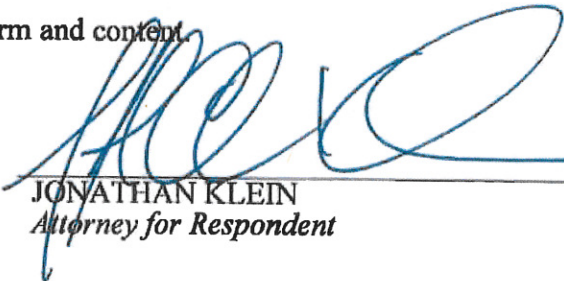
ACCEPTANCE

I am authorized to sign for Respondent PharMEDium Services, LLC in Sugar Land, Texas. I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeoval and have fully discussed it with Respondent's attorney, Jonathan Klein. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on the Application for a Nonresident Outsourcing Facility License and subsequently-issued Nonresident Outsourcing Facility License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeoval voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Pharmacy.

DATED: 02-MAY-2019 

Scott Aladeen, President, for
PHARMEDIUM SERVICES, LLC
Sugar Land, Texas
Respondent

I have read and fully discussed with Respondent and its representative(s) the terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeoval. I approve its form and content.

DATED: 5/2/19 

JONATHAN KLEIN
Attorney for Respondent

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ENDORSEMENT

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order for Public Repeval is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Pharmacy of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Dated: 5/2/19

Respectfully submitted,
XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
LINDA K. SCHNEIDER
Senior Assistant Attorney General


JOSHUA A. ROOM
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
Attorneys for Complainant

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Exhibit A

Statement of Issues No. 6465

1 XAVIER BECERRA
Attorney General of California
2 LINDA K. SCHNEIDER
Senior Assistant Attorney General
3 JOSHUA A. ROOM
Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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BOARD OF PHARMACY
9 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

10 In the Matter of the Statement of Issues Against:
11 **PHARMEDIUM SERVICES, LLC**
12 **Applicant for Nonresident Outsourcing**
13 **Facility Registration**
14 Respondent.

Case No. 6465

STATEMENT OF ISSUES

15
16 Complainant alleges:

17 **PARTIES**

- 18 1. Virginia Herold (Complainant) brings this Statement of Issues solely in her official
19 capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs.
- 20 2. On or about March 2, 2017, the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs
21 received an Application for a Nonresident Outsourcing Facility License from Amerisource
22 Bergen Corporation dba PharMEDium Services, LLC in Sugar Land, Texas (Respondent). On or
23 about January 30, 2017, Jennifer Adams, President of PharMEDium Services, LLC in Sugar
24 Land, Texas, certified under penalty of perjury to the truthfulness of all statements, answers, and
25 representations in the application. On or about December 22, 2017, the Board issued Temporary
26 Nonresident Outsourcing Facility Permit Number NSF 110 to Respondent. On or about February
27 27, 2018, Respondent received an Order to Cease and Desist from the Board. The Board denied
28 the Application on or about March 20, 2018. The Temporary Permit expired March 31, 2018.

1 **JURISDICTION**

2 3. This Statement of Issues is brought before the Board of Pharmacy (Board),
3 Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section
4 references are to the Business and Professions Code (Code) unless otherwise indicated.

5 4. Section 4011 of the Code provides that the Board shall administer and enforce both
6 the Pharmacy Law [Bus. & Prof. Code, § 4000 et seq.] and the Uniform Controlled Substances
7 Act [Health & Safety Code, § 11000 et seq.].

8 5. Section 4300, subdivision (a), of the Code provides that every license issued by the
9 Board may be suspended or revoked.

10 6. Section 4300.1 of the Code provides that the expiration, cancellation, forfeiture, or
11 suspension of a Board-issued license, the placement of a license on a retired status, or the
12 voluntary surrender of a license by a licensee, shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to
13 commence or proceed with any investigation of, or action or disciplinary proceeding against, the
14 licensee or to render a decision suspending or revoking the license.

15 **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

16 7. Section 480 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

17 “(a) A board may deny a license regulated by this code on the grounds that the applicant
18 has one of the following:

19 . . .

20 “(3) Done any act which if done by a licentiate of the business or profession in
21 question, would be grounds for suspension or revocation of license.

22 “The board may deny a license pursuant to this subdivision only if the crime or act is
23 substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the . . . [license].”

24 8. Section 4300, subdivision (c), of the Code states in pertinent part:

25 (c) The board may refuse a license to any applicant guilty of unprofessional
26 conduct. The board may, in its sole discretion, issue a probationary license to any
27 applicant for a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct and who has met all
28 other requirements for licensure. The board may issue the license subject to any
terms or conditions not contrary to public policy. . . .

1 (c) Operations shall be performed within specifically defined areas of adequate size. There
2 shall be separate or defined areas or such other control systems for the firm's operations as are
3 necessary to prevent contamination or mixups during the course of the following procedures:

4 (1) Receipt, identification, storage, and withholding from use of components, drug product
5 containers, closures, and labeling, pending the appropriate sampling, testing, or examination by
6 the quality control unit before release for manufacturing or packaging;

7 (2) Holding rejected components, drug product containers, closures, and labeling before
8 disposition;

9 (3) Storage of released components, drug product containers, closures, and labeling;

10 (4) Storage of in-process materials;

11 (5) Manufacturing and processing operations;

12 (6) Packaging and labeling operations;

13 (7) Quarantine storage before release of drug products;

14 (8) Storage of drug products after release;

15 (9) Control and laboratory operations;

16 (10) Aseptic processing, which includes as appropriate:

17 (i) Floors, walls, and ceilings of smooth, hard surfaces that are easily cleanable;

18 (ii) Temperature and humidity controls;

19 (iii) An air supply filtered through high-efficiency particulate air filters under positive
20 pressure, regardless of whether flow is laminar or nonlaminar;

21 (iv) A system for monitoring environmental conditions;

22 (v) A system for cleaning and disinfecting the room and equipment to produce aseptic
23 conditions;

24 (vi) A system for maintaining any equipment used to control the aseptic conditions.

25 (d) Operations relating to the manufacture, processing, and packing of penicillin shall be
26 performed in facilities separate from those used for other drug products for human use.”

27 13. 21 C.F.R. § 211.46 states, in pertinent part:

28 “(a) Adequate ventilation shall be provided.

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(d) Air-handling systems for the manufacture, processing, and packing of penicillin shall be completely separate from those for other drug products for human use.”

14. 21 C.F.R. § 211.84 states, in pertinent part:

“(a) Each lot of components, drug product containers, and closures shall be withheld from use until the lot has been sampled, tested, or examined, as appropriate, and released for use by the quality control unit.

(b) Representative samples of each shipment of each lot shall be collected for testing or examination. The number of containers to be sampled, and the amount of material to be taken from each container, shall be based upon appropriate criteria such as statistical criteria for component variability, confidence levels, and degree of precision desired, the past quality history of the supplier, and the quantity needed for analysis and reserve where required by § 211.170.

...

(d) Samples shall be examined and tested as follows:

(1) At least one test shall be conducted to verify the identity of each component of a drug product. Specific identity tests, if they exist, shall be used.

(2) Each component shall be tested for conformity with all appropriate written specifications for purity, strength, and quality. In lieu of such testing by the manufacturer, a report of analysis may be accepted from the supplier of a component, provided that at least one specific identity test is conducted on such component by the manufacturer, and provided that the manufacturer establishes the reliability of the supplier's analyses through appropriate validation of the supplier's test results at appropriate intervals.

(3) Containers and closures shall be tested for conformity with all appropriate written specifications. In lieu of such testing by the manufacturer, a certificate of testing may be accepted from the supplier, provided that at least a visual identification is conducted on such containers/closures by the manufacturer and provided that the manufacturer establishes the reliability of the supplier's test results through appropriate validation of the supplier's test results at appropriate intervals.

1 (4) When appropriate, components shall be microscopically examined.

2 (5) Each lot of a component, drug product container, or closure that is liable to
3 contamination with filth, insect infestation, or other extraneous adulterant shall be examined
4 against established specifications for such contamination.

5 (6) Each lot of a component, drug product container, or closure with potential for
6 microbiological contamination that is objectionable in view of its intended use shall be subjected
7 to microbiological tests before use.

8 ...”

9 15. 21 C.F.R. § 211.94 states, in pertinent part:

10 “(a) Drug product containers and closures shall not be reactive, additive, or absorptive so as
11 to alter the safety, identity, strength, quality, or purity of the drug beyond the official or
12 established requirements.

13 (b) Container closure systems shall provide adequate protection against foreseeable external
14 factors in storage and use that can cause deterioration or contamination of the drug product.

15 (c) Drug product containers and closures shall be clean and, where indicated by the nature
16 of the drug, sterilized and processed to remove pyrogenic properties to assure that they are
17 suitable for their intended use. Such depyrogenation processes shall be validated.

18 (d) Standards or specifications, methods of testing, and, where indicated, methods of
19 cleaning, sterilizing, and processing to remove pyrogenic properties shall be written and followed
20 for drug product containers and closures.

21 ...”

22 16. 21 C.F.R. § 211.137 states, in pertinent part:

23 “(a) To assure that a drug product meets applicable standards of identity, strength, quality,
24 and purity at the time of use, it shall bear an expiration date determined by appropriate stability
25 testing described in § 211.166.

26 (b) Expiration dates shall be related to any storage conditions stated on the labeling, as
27 determined by stability studies described in § 211.166.

28 ...”

1 17. 21 C.F.R. § 211.160, subdivision (a), states:

2 “(a) The establishment of any specifications, standards, sampling plans, test procedures, or
3 other laboratory control mechanisms required by this subpart, including any change in such . . .
4 shall be drafted by the appropriate organizational unit and reviewed and approved by the quality
5 control unit. The requirements in this subpart shall be followed and shall be documented at the
6 time of performance. Any deviation from the written specifications, standards, sampling plans,
7 test procedures, or other laboratory control mechanisms shall be recorded and justified.”

8 18. 21 C.F.R. § 211.166 states, in pertinent part:

9 “(a) There shall be a written testing program designed to assess the stability characteristics
10 of drug products. The results of such stability testing shall be used in determining appropriate
11 storage conditions and expiration dates. The written program shall be followed and shall include:

12 (1) Sample size and test intervals based on statistical criteria for each attribute examined to
13 assure valid estimates of stability;

14 (2) Storage conditions for samples retained for testing;

15 (3) Reliable, meaningful, and specific test methods;

16 (4) Testing of the drug product in the same container-closure system as that in which the
17 drug product is marketed;

18 (5) Testing of drug products for reconstitution at the time of dispensing (as directed in the
19 labeling) as well as after they are reconstituted.

20 (b) An adequate number of batches of each drug product shall be tested to determine an
21 appropriate expiration date and a record of such data shall be maintained. Accelerated studies,
22 combined with basic stability information on the components, drug products, and container-
23 closure system, may be used to support tentative expiration dates provided full shelf life studies
24 are not available and are being conducted. Where data from accelerated studies are used to project
25 a tentative expiration date that is beyond a date supported by actual shelf life studies, there must
26 be stability studies conducted, including drug product testing at appropriate intervals, until the
27 tentative expiration date is verified or the appropriate expiration date determined.

28 . . .”

1 19. 21 C.F.R. § 211.170 states, in pertinent part:

2 “(a) An appropriately identified reserve sample that is representative of each lot in each
3 shipment of each active ingredient shall be retained. The reserve sample consists of at least twice
4 the quantity necessary for all tests required to determine whether the active ingredient meets its
5 established specifications, except for sterility and pyrogen testing. . . .

6 (b) An appropriately identified reserve sample that is representative of each lot or batch of
7 drug product shall be retained and stored under conditions consistent with product labeling. The
8 reserve sample shall be stored in the same immediate container-closure system in which the drug
9 product is marketed or in one that has essentially the same characteristics. The reserve sample
10 consists of at least twice the quantity necessary to perform all the required tests, except those for
11 sterility and pyrogens. . . .”

12 20. 21 C.F.R. § 211.188 states, in pertinent part:

13 “Batch production and control records shall be prepared for each batch of drug product
14 produced and shall include complete information relating to the production and control of each
15 batch. These records shall include:

16 (a) An accurate reproduction of the appropriate master production or control record,
17 checked for accuracy, dated, and signed;

18 (b) Documentation that each significant step in the manufacture, processing, packing, or
19 holding of the batch was accomplished, including:

20 (1) Dates;

21 (2) Identity of individual major equipment and lines used;

22 (3) Specific identification of each batch of component or in-process material used;

23 (4) Weights and measures of components used in the course of processing;

24 (5) In-process and laboratory control results;

25 (6) Inspection of the packaging and labeling area before and after use;

26 (7) A statement of the actual yield and a statement of the percentage of theoretical yield at
27 appropriate phases of processing;

28 (8) Complete labeling control records, including specimens or copies of all labeling used;

- 1 (9) Description of drug product containers and closures;
- 2 (10) Any sampling performed;
- 3 (11) Identification of the persons performing and directly supervising or checking each
- 4 significant step in the operation, or if a significant step in the operation is performed by
- 5 automated equipment under § 211.68, the identification of the person checking the significant
- 6 step performed by the automated equipment.
- 7 (12) Any investigation made according to § 211.192.
- 8 (13) Results of examinations made in accordance with § 211.134.”

9 **FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

10 21. Between on or about October 9, 2017 and October 11, 2017, Respondent was the
11 subject of a Board pre-licensure inspection pursuant to its Application for a Nonresident
12 Outsourcing Facility License. In the course of that inspection, and/or subsequently, Board
13 inspectors discovered several deviations from current federal current good manufacturing
14 practices (CGMPs). An Order to Cease and Desist was issued to Respondent. The Temporary
15 Nonresident Outsourcing Facility Permit issued to Respondent has since expired.

16 **CAUSE FOR DENIAL OF APPLICATION**

17 **(Non-Compliance with CGMPs and/or California Compounding Regulations)**

18 22. Respondent’s Application for a Nonresident Outsourcing Facility License is subject
19 to denial under section(s) 480, subdivision (a)(3), section 4300, subdivision (c), section 4129.1,
20 and/or section 4129.2 of the Code, in that Respondent, in the following ways, failed to comply
21 with current federal CGMPs:

- 22 a. Respondent produced compounds containing **cefazolin**, a beta-lactam drug similar to
- 23 penicillin and with similar risks from cross-contamination and hypersensitivity reactions
- 24 that penicillin can trigger, in the same room and in the same primary engineering control
- 25 (PEC) as other compounds, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.42(c) and/or (d);
- 26 b. These compounds containing **cefazolin** were produced in the same room with a total
- 27 of twenty-four (24) PECs utilizing a shared air handling system, and were stored alongside
- 28 other compounds, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.46(a) and/or (d);

- 1 c. Components, containers, and/or closures were not adequately sampled and tested
2 prior to use, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.84(a) and/or (b);
- 3 d. Components for compounded products were not adequately tested prior to the
4 compounding process, and/or Respondent relied on out-of-date supplier reports of analysis
5 and/or qualifications, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.84(d);
- 6 e. No container and/or closure integrity studies were available for review, failing to
7 comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.94(a) and/or (d);
- 8 f. Compounded preparations bore expiration dates not supported by appropriate stability
9 studies/scientific support, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.137;
- 10 g. Respondent did not have appropriate specifications, standards, sampling plans, test
11 procedures, or other laboratory control mechanisms developed by an appropriate
12 organizational unit and reviewed and approved by an appropriate quality control unit, e.g.,
13 Respondent's testing plan did not require visual inspection of each drug preparation and use
14 of a black and white board with a light, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.160;
- 15 h. Compounded preparations bore expiration dates not supported by appropriate stability
16 studies/scientific support, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.166;
- 17 i. Respondent did not appropriately identify and retain reserve samples representative of
18 each lot in each shipment of each active ingredient, and/or store same under conditions
19 consistent with product labeling and in the same immediate container-closure system,
20 failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.170; and/or
- 21 j. Respondent failed to appropriately include in batch production and control records
22 statement(s) of actual yield and statement(s) of percentage of theoretical yield at
23 appropriate phases of processing, failing to comply with 21 C.F.R. § 211.188(b)(7).
- 24

25 **PRAYER**

26 WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged,
27 and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

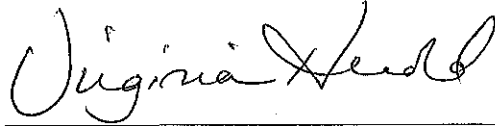
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1. Denying the Application for a Nonresident Outsourcing Facility License received from Amerisource Bergen Corporation dba PharMEDium Services, LLC (Respondent);

2. Taking such other and further action as is deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 7/5/18



VIRGINIA HEROLD
Executive Officer
Board of Pharmacy
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California
Complainant

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