

Once-disciplined URM C urologist accused of sexual misconduct in lawsuit

Doctor sanctioned in 2016 for improper record keeping; had to have chaperone afterward

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A University of Rochester Medical Center urologist who was once sanctioned by a state watchdog agency is accused in a lawsuit of sexual abuse of a patient.

The state's Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) in 2016 sanctioned the URM C urologist, Dr. Gareth Warren for improper keeping of medical records, a decision agreed to by Warren.

Warren agreed to have a chaperone for two years.

The OPMC decision was the offspring of a complaint from a patient who also alleged sexual misconduct by Warren.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
GARETH WARREN, M.D.

CONSENT
AGREEMENT

GARETH WARREN, M.D., represents that all of the following statements are true:

That on or about July 8, 2014, I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No. 276114 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is [REDACTED], and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct (Board) has charged me with one or more specifications of professional misconduct, as set forth in a Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", attached to and part of this Consent Agreement.

I do not contest the Second Specification (failing to maintain adequate records), in full satisfaction of the charges against me, and agree to the following penalty:

Portion of 2016 OPMC decision

In March, a Rochester man who was a patient of Warren alleged in a lawsuit against URMC that Warren sexually abused him in May 2025. The abuse reached criminal levels, the lawsuit alleges.

The university has fired back, requesting that a judge disallow "inflammatory and conclusory" language in court papers of "sexual assault," which is verbiage used in the lawsuit.

The lawsuit alleges “sexual assault” and “criminal acts” despite “the fact that no criminal charges are pleaded, no criminal convictions have occurred, and such labels are legal conclusions rather than material facts,” URMJ lawyers said in recently filed court papers.

Similarly, URMJ said in a statement: “This lawsuit alleges a crime occurred when no criminal justice investigation or action is pending to our knowledge. The University will defend itself vigorously against these allegations.”

Warren declined to comment.

The lawsuit does not specifically state where the abuse is alleged to have happened, but Canandaigua Police Chief Mathew Nielsen said the department was approached and did investigate the allegations. Warren does practice at a URMJ facility in Canandaigua.

“The case has been closed with no prosecution,” Nielson said.

The lawsuit notes the earlier 2015 allegation against Warren.

“Despite those complaints, the University of Rochester Medical Center failed to take any action to protect future patients,” the lawsuit alleges.

✓ **Subscribed**

Allegations in 2015

Robert Adams, who was also a Warren patient, alleged in 2015 that Warren sexually abused him. He said in a telephone interview that his allegations weren’t always taken seriously and that he could not find a local lawyer to pursue a lawsuit.

His approaches to law enforcement also did not lead to any criminal allegations against Warren, nor did he have success approaching the

medical center with his claims, Adams said.

“As sad as it is on a personal level, I feel vindicated,” he said about the recent lawsuit. “I wish I was vindicated 11 years ago.”

(Adams has agreed to be named here, and said he is working on a book about his experiences. I am not now naming the individual suing URM.)

The Rochester man told family about the alleged abuse and then found postings from Adams on the web, according to attorney Mallory Allen, who represents the man. In those postings, Adams repeated his allegations from 2015.

“There had already been pretty significant complaints against Dr. Warren,” Allen, of Pfau Cochran Vertetis Amala PLLC, said in a telephone interview.

The earlier allegations are “extremely significant” to the lawsuit, she said.

She said the difficulty with police investigations has been that “often sexual assaults happen when there’s just the victim and the perpetrator.”

Adams said he is prepared to be a witness should the lawsuit go to trial.

“His attorneys have reached out to me, and I expect to be subpoenaed and deposed,” he said.

Warren denied allegations of sexual abuse in the 2015 OPMC case. He was ordered to have a second physician with him for two years when seeing patients.

My friend and former colleague, Patti Singer, wrote about the OPMC decision in 2016. Here is that story: **NY puts URM urologist on probation over records**

“The state health department charged Warren with negligence on more than one occasion and failure to maintain records in regard to his treatment of a 49-year-old male in July and August 2015,” Patti wrote then,

“The state alleged that during an office visit and examination on July 28, 2015 in his office at Strong Memorial Hospital, Warren engaged in ‘an inappropriate personal and non-medical’ conversation with the patient. The state further alleged that on several occasions after that visit, Warren had an inappropriate personal and non-medical conversation with the individual, whose name was not part of the public record.”

URMC lawyers respond to earlier allegations

In legal papers responding to the recent lawsuit, attorneys for URM argue that “references or allusions to alleged prior complaints and purported misconduct ... serve only to prejudice the Defendant (URMC).”

The papers continue: “Such allegations are improper because: 1) they are not necessary elements of the asserted causes of action; 2) they improperly suggest criminal liability in a civil action; and 3) they are designed to inflame rather than inform.”

The attorneys for the plaintiff contend that the past allegations show willful negligence on the part of the medical center.

Warren has extensive urological expertise, records show, including reconstructive urological surgery.

“Dr. Warren has been the recipient of prestigious awards and honors including the Joanne Hatem, MD Memorial Prize for Humanism within the Clinical Study of Medicine from the University of Maryland School

of Medicine,” the UPMC website notes. “In addition, he was an inductee of the University of Maryland School of Medicine's Humanism Honor Society.”

The next scheduled date for the court case is July 15, when all papers are expected to be filed regarding the UPMC request to strike certain language from the lawsuit.