

It is outrageous that the state of Vermont would consider allowing non-physicians the responsibility of prescribing medications. As a physician with twelve years of education and post graduate training in internal medicine and psychiatry, and 35 years of practice, I am aware of the background that is necessary for the safe practice of psychiatry. There is no substitute for a medical degree and appropriate specialty training in psychiatry and pharmacology. Allowing a non-physician to prescribe any medication is a recipe for bad practice and great harm to the citizens of Vermont. No psychiatric treatment is preferable to bad psychiatric treatment, which is potentially fatal. I urge you to oppose any legislation that would extend such privileges to psychologists.

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