

Doctor sanctioned for phone prescription

by UPI

HARTFORD, Conn. -- A Connecticut doctor controversial for the treatment he prescribes for Lyme disease patients has been sanctioned for prescribing antibiotics over the telephone. The Connecticut Medical Examining Board ordered two years of probation for Dr. Charles Ray Jones, who practices in the New Haven, Conn., area, The Hartford (Conn.) Courant reported. He was also fined \$10,000 and must pay a monitor to supervise his practice. Jones, unlike many doctors, is willing to prescribe antibiotics for months to treat chronic Lyme disease, the tick-borne infection first recognized in Lyme, Conn. Some medical experts claim chronic Lyme disease doesn't exist, at least in patients who have been treated with antibiotics soon after infection. But Jones is a hero to many of his patients or their parents. They include Kim Harrison of Newtown, Conn., whose son was a patient. "He's a complete gem on every level," Harrison told the Courant. What got Jones in trouble was prescribing antibiotics over the telephone for two Nevada children. The children were caught up in a custody fight where their parents didn't agree on whether they had chronic Lyme disease.

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