

ACTION IS DEFERRED IN THE CASE OF DR. X

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PRINCETON, N.J., March 10—
The New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners, which licenses physicians, deferred action today in the case of D. X, the surgeon now under investigation in connection with the death of nine or more patients at Riverdell Hospital a decade ago.

However, Dr. Edwin H. Albano, the board's president, said it was continuing its investigation and would meet in emergency session if new information warranted it.

Anthony La Bue, a deputy state attorney general who is counsel to the board, said he received a report from medical scientists on the possible discovery of curare in the exhumed bodies of one or more patients who might have been murdered at the hospital in Oradell in 1965 and 1966.

The New York Times reported last Sunday that curare—the drug suspected of having caused the death, had been found in the first body exhumed in the present investigation of the case, and appeared to be present in other bodies as well. Eighteen vials of curare, most of them empty or nearly so, were discovered in Dr. X's locker at the Riverdell Hospital.

Dr. X has not been identified because he has not been charged with homicide. He has denied any wrongdoing.