

INQUIRY COMMITTEE RECORD OF DECISION

File Reference: DH1807

ELEMENTS OF COMPLAINT

On August 13, 2018, the College received a complaint alleging that the Registrant provided the Complainant with substandard dental hygiene care by failing to perform periodontal probing and assessments.

The CDHBC Inquiry Committee initiated an investigation under s. 33(1) of the *Health Professions Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 183 (the "Act") and appointed an inspector to assist with its investigation.

On August 28, 2018, the CDHBC Registrar notified the Registrant of the investigation and invited a response in accordance with s. 33(5) of the Act.

The Registrant provided a written response to the complaint and advised that s/he discussed periodontal disease with the Complainant and recommended dental hygiene appointment every three months. The Registrant also stated that s/he had advised the Complainant of the option to be referred to a periodontist. The Registrant stated specifically that at the August 23, 2017 appointment, s/he discussed the Complainant's periodontal condition and explained the measurement of pocket depths. The Registrant acknowledged s/he did not document his/her discussions with the Complainant regarding assessment findings in the client's chart.

The College received the Inspector's Report, a copy of which was provided to the Complainant and the Registrant for response.

COMMITTEE DECISION

At the conclusion of the investigation, the Inquiry Committee was concerned that the Registrant had: (a) contravened the CDHBC practice standards; (b) failed to refer clients to a dentist for treatment in accordance with the College's guidelines; and (c) failed to maintain adequate or accurate clinical records.

In accordance with section 33(6)(c) of the Act, the Inquiry Committee determined that this would be appropriate case to seek a consent agreement under s. 36 of the Act with terms that required the Registrant to:

- have his/her registration transferred to Non-Practising registration class and to cease the practice of dental hygiene in British Columbia effective July 30, 2019 as s/he will be leaving the country;
- adequately assess the client's needs and adequately perform periodontal probing in accordance with para. 3 of the CDHBC Practice Standards;
- complete proper charting in accordance with para. 8 of the CDHBC Practice Standards;
- complete three continuing competency credits with a focus in Subcategory F1: Jurisprudence and Ethics, specifically related to Documentation within six months of the date of the consent agreement;
- complete three continuing competency credits with a focus in Subcategory D6: Primary prevention strategies including oral self-care within six months of the date of the consent agreement;
- complete three continuing competency credits with a focus in Subcategory B2: Communication principles within six months of the date of the consent agreement;

- cooperate with random site-based audits by a College appointed inspector at any time for a period of two years from the date of his/her return to practice as a full registrant, the frequency and timing of which are at the sole discretion of the Inquiry Committee;
- consent to such further reasonable remedial activities at his/her cost in the event that any areas of deficiency are identified during the random chart audits as directed by the Inquiry Committee; and
- immediately report in writing to the College where s/he is practicing dental hygiene upon his/her return to the practice of dental hygiene in British Columbia and to report in writing any subsequent changes to his/her employment status and place of employment to the College within five days of any change.

RELEVANT PROVISION OF ACT, REGULATION OR BYLAWS

Act, section 13; 33(1); 33(5); 33(6)(c); 36(1)(a) and (d)

STATUS

Closed.