

Dr. Zimran CHOWDHARY

Council Decision

Date Charge(s) Laid: Outcome Date: Hearing: Disposition: September 30, 2018 March 16, 2018 Not required Reprimand, Costs

The Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons imposes the following penalty on Dr. Zimram Chowdhary pursuant to **The Medical Profession Act, 1981**:

- 1) Pursuant to Section 54(1)(e) of *The Medical Professional Act, 1981*, the Council hereby reprimands Dr. Chowdhary;
- Pursuant to section 54(1)(i) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, the Council directs Dr. Chowdhary to pay the costs of and incidental to the investigation and hearing in the amount of \$10,051.00. Such payment shall be made in full by May 16, 2018.
- 3) Pursuant to section 54(2) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, if Dr. Chowdhary should fail to pay the costs as required by paragraph 2, Dr. Chowdhary's licence shall be suspended until the costs are paid in full.
- 4) The Council reserves to itself the right to reconsider and amend the time within which payment of costs must be made set out in paragraph 2 and the right to reconsider and amend the requirements of the retraining or education set out in paragraph 4. Such reconsideration shall only be done if requested by Dr. Chowdhary.



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REGISTRAR KAREN SHAW, M.D.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

18 June, 2018

Dr. Z. Chowdhary



Dear Dr.Chowdhary,

You, Dr. Zimran Chowdhary are guilty of unbecoming, improper, unprofessional, or discreditable conduct contrary to the provisions of section 46(o) and/or section 46(p) of The Medical Profession Act, 1981 S.S. 1980-81 c. M-10.1, and/or bylaw 8.1(b)(ix) and/or bylaw 7.1 and/or paragraphs 6, 14 and/or 15 of the Code of Ethics contained in bylaw 7.1. of the bylaws of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

You, Dr. Zimran Chowdhary, having been found guilty of professional misconduct while practising medicine in the province of Saskatchewan are hereby reprimanded by the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

Council is aware that the decision to circumcise children with a hidden penis is not an uncommon decision error. We are satisfied that you have taken to upgrade your skills to ensure recognition of this condition in the future.

Council is concerned that you failed to disclose to the parents of a child who had undergone a circumcision performed by you, a significant complication. Even after the parents informed you that they had sought a second opinion and you were aware of these opinions you continued to deny this surgical complication.

Continued.....

To serve the public by regulating the practice of medicine and guiding the profession to achieve the highest standards of care Council recognizes that unfortunately adverse events and complications occur in the delivery of healthcare. A physician must be willing to disclose adverse events honestly and apologetically to the patient/proxy. You failed to disclose your complication honestly to the parents and the family physician. Your ethical responsibility would have been to refer the child yourself for a second opinion.

Another major concern of Council is that you disregarded the opinion of two experts in the field of pediatric urology to both the parents and the family physician.

Disregarding the opinion of experts who have more experience and training than you is a very dangerous practice and concerns Council greatly. This decision brings your clinical insight into question and demonstrates to Council a very poor communication strategy. To disagree with a physician colleague is not wrong, but the method and rationale for this difference in opinion must be thoroughly explained to the patient/proxy and they must be allowed to decide which approach they want to take as their course of treatment. You did not offer this course to the family and insisted that the child would outgrow the complication.

Council strongly recommends that you review the CMPA website and thoroughly familiarize yourself with disclosing adverse events (Disclosing harm from healthcare delivery: Open and honest communication with patients). We encourage you to take the time to effectively communicate with your patients and seek out courses and opportunities to improve your communication skills.

Sincerely,

Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan