



# Dr. Ali Mohammed Abdul-Razak AL-KHAFAJI

## Council Decision to Restore Licence

Date of Application	March 28, 2025
Date of Decision:	March 28, 2025
Decision:	Restoration
Effective Date:	November 25, 2025

On March 28, 2025, the Council decided that Dr. Al-Khafaji had successfully completed the conditions imposed for reinstatement, as detailed in the Council's decision of November 25, 2022. The Council adopted the following resolution:

*The Council directs that Dr. Ali Mohammed Abdul-Razak Al-Khafaji's licence to practise medicine in the province of Saskatchewan be restored effective November 25, 2025, provided Dr. Al-Khafaji signs an undertaking that is satisfactory to the Registrar which contains the following elements:*

- The requirement for a female practice monitor to be present during the entirety of all professional encounters with female patients. The practice monitor must be approved by the College, and have completed training with respect to being a mandatory practice monitor.
- Signage within any practice location(s) with respect to the requirement for a practice monitor.
- Ongoing psychotherapy with an approved provider, to be discontinued only if mutually agreed with the provider that treatment has been successful to the point that it is no longer required, or to be determined by the Registrar upon request from Dr. Al-Khafaji.
- Referral to the Physician Health Program (PHP) of the Saskatchewan Medical Association, with continued engagement as recommended by the PHP.
- Cooperation with unannounced inspections of his practice location(s) and cooperation with inspections of patient charts, etc.
- A requirement to keep the College advised of his practice location(s) and circumstances.
- A requirement that he maintain a patient-physician relationship with a family physician who is not associated with his practice location(s).
- A requirement for a mentor, to be preapproved by the College and to report to the College as detailed in Info 39\_25. Dr. Al-Khafaji will meet with the mentor at a frequency not less than biweekly for the first year

and thereafter on a basis to be determined by the Registrar or the Council. The requirement for a mentor will remain in effect until that condition is removed by the Registrar or the Council.

The Council's Reasons for Decision will be posted once available.

**Reinstatement Application from Dr. A. Al-Khafaji**  
**Mr. V. Thompson appearing for Dr. A. Al-Khafaji**  
**Ms. S. Torrance appearing for the Registrar's Office**

**Reasons for Decision**

**Background**

Dr. Ali Al-Khafaji's license to practise medicine in Saskatchewan was revoked by Council effective November 25, 2022, pursuant to section 54.01 of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981* (the "Act") based upon a finding of unprofessional conduct by the Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal (OPSDT) for engaging in a sexual relationship with a patient. Section 54.01 of the Act permits the Council to impose penalty based on a finding made by another regulatory authority:

Under the terms of Council's November 2022 order, Dr. Al-Khafaji was not eligible to have his licence restored until he has met conditions and three years have elapsed. In addition, the Council imposed a reprimand and ordered the payment of costs in the amount of \$1,410.00. The conditions imposed by Council were:

1. Undertake, at his own expense, counselling for sexual abuse and that Council receives a satisfactory report from a professional person, persons or organization acceptable to the Council which attests that Dr. Al-Khafaji has gained insight into the matter and has achieved a measure of rehabilitation which protects the public from risk of future harm from Dr. Al-Khafaji;
2. Successfully complete a boundaries course acceptable to Council.

Dr. Ali Al-Khafaji has applied under section 86 of *The Act* to have his licence to practise medicine restored as at November 25, 2025. The matter was brought before Council in March 2025 for consideration of his eligibility and the appropriateness of reinstatement.

**Dr. Al-Khafaji's Position**

Counsel for Dr. Al-Khafaji submitted that the conditions for eligibility to apply for reinstatement have been satisfied. Specifically:

- Dr. Al-Khafaji completed a professional boundaries course in April 2022 and an ethics course in November 2020;
- He undertook psychotherapy with Mr. David Smith, a registered counsellor, focusing on antecedents to his misconduct, responsibility, and behavioural insight;
- A report dated June 7, 2024, from Dr. Janet Wright of the Comprehensive Occupational Assessment Program attests to Dr. Al-Khafaji's counselling, insight, and rehabilitation;

- Affidavit evidence from Dr. Al-Khafaji acknowledges misconduct, outlines therapeutic progress, and details positive changes in personal and professional behavior. His affidavit also describes the work done by Dr. Al-Khafaji to maintain and upgrade his medical knowledge.

Counsel submitted that these materials satisfy the criteria set by Council. Also, that the primary requirement in section 86 of the Act that the public interest be protected has been met. He has made extensive efforts to gain insight into his behaviours and to rehabilitate himself. This is evidenced by the reports noted above and by the assessments contained in those reports that the restoration of his license does not pose a threat to public safety.

Dr. Al-Khafaji does not object to his license being restored subject to the undertaking and conditions proposed by the Registrar. An order for restoration of his license, subject to those conditions, would maintain public safety and confidence and be consistent with past decisions of Council in similar cases.

### **Registrar's Position**

Legal counsel for the Registrar's Office did not oppose the application and took no position on whether reinstatement should be granted. The Registrar's Office noted that the primary consideration in addressing Dr. Al-Khafaji's application is the protection of the public. Further, that the onus is upon Dr. Al-Khafaji's to establish on the balance of probabilities that the interests of the public are adequately protected if his license is restored.

The Registrar's Office identified from the case law several factors that may be considered in an application for restoration:

- a. The nature and circumstances of the misconduct that led to the revocation (sexual abuse);*
- b. Other past behaviour of concern that is relevant to the practise of medicine;*
- c. Character, including personal driving forces, honesty and integrity and vulnerabilities;*
- d. Whether the applicant has demonstrated insight, understanding and appreciation for the impact of his actions on the victim;*
- e. Changes in behaviour since revocation;*
- f. Current health;*
- g. Proposed plan for reinstatement;*
- h. Competency to practise; and*
- i. The effect of reinstatement on the public and profession*

The Registrar's Office confirmed that:

- The documentary conditions for eligibility to apply appear to have been met, including receiving the reports from Dr. Janet Wright which attests that Dr. Al-Khafaji has undertaken counselling at his expense for sexual abuse, has gained insight into the matter and has achieved a measure of rehabilitation which protects the public from risk of future harm. Dr. Wright is a psychiatrist who was formerly an Assistant Registrar with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta and heads the multidisciplinary Comprehensive Occupational Assessment Program (COAP). Also, the CPSS has received reports from the applicant's psychotherapist, Mr. David Smith;
- The final date of reinstatement, if approved, cannot be earlier than November 25, 2025;
- Any reinstatement should be subject to appropriate conditions incorporated into a signed undertaking, as permitted under existing Council practice and section 86 of *The Act*.

The Registrar's Office suggests that any order for restoration be subject to the following conditions, derived from Dr. Wright's reports:

- a. A requirement for a chaperone/practice monitor for all female patients, with the chaperone reporting compliance to the College;*
- b. The assignment of a formal mentor, pre-approved by the CPSS, and would be expected to report to the CPSS on a regular basis with recommended bi-weekly meetings for one year, with frequency thereafter to be determined by the mentor and the CPSS; and*
- c. He continue with ongoing continue with ongoing psychotherapy until therapeutic termination is determined jointly by him and his therapist.*
- d. Continued work on his work-life balance, to be addressed with his mentor and therapist.*

### **Council's Analysis**

Council reviewed the materials submitted, including:

- The report of Dr. Janet Wright attesting to counselling, insight, and mitigation of risk;
- The detailed psychotherapy reports of Mr. David Smith indicating sustained engagement, personality insight, and professional accountability;
- The affidavit of Dr. Al-Khafaji reflecting remorse, rehabilitation, and improvements in interpersonal functioning;
- Evidence that Dr. Al-Khafaji voluntarily initiated counselling and ethics training before being required to do so.

Council also considered submissions on public confidence and the principle of consistency with precedent decisions. Council noted that the reinstatement is not immediate and is conditional upon the full passage of the three-year revocation period.

In terms of the protection of the public, Council accepted the assessments of his treatment providers in the reports noted above. Dr. Wright in her report stated:

*"Overall, Dr. Al-Khafaji was found to be fit to practice. He has gained insight regarding his unprofessional behaviour, has benefitted from treatment interventions, and the risk of future harm to the public has been mitigated. If Dr. Al-Khafaji's license is reinstated, ongoing therapy, a formal mentor, and a chaperone would further mitigate risks of recurrence. Working on managing work-life balance, the pressures of working in a small community, and being geographically isolated from his family are recommendations for follow up for Dr. Al-Khafaji's professional and personal well-being."*

Also, Mr. David Smith in his report of February 19, 2025, stated: *"I can say without reservation that in terms of professionalism, I have no concerns that [Dr. Al-Khafaji] presents a risk to the public going forward in his role as a physician."*

Council found no exceptional factors that would warrant departure from its past practice of granting reinstatement where mandatory conditions have been met, and the public interest is protected through robust undertakings.

### **Council's Decision**

The following motion was passed:

1. Pursuant to section 45(12)(b) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, Council directs that Dr. Ali Al-Khafaji's license to practise medicine in Saskatchewan be restored effective **November 25, 2025**, conditional upon Dr. Al-Khafaji signing an undertaking satisfactory to the Registrar which includes, at minimum, the following elements:
  - a) A requirement for a **female practice monitor** to be present during all professional encounters with female patients;
  - b) Approval of the practice monitor by the College and completion of training as a mandatory practice monitor;
  - c) Placement of **signage** at all practice locations indicating the presence of a practice monitor;
  - d) **Ongoing psychotherapy** with an approved provider, to continue unless mutually discontinued or terminated by the Registrar upon request;
  - e) **Referral to and engagement** with the Physician Health Program (PHP) of the Saskatchewan Medical Association, as recommended by PHP;
  - f) Cooperation with **unannounced inspections** of practice locations and patient chart audits;

- g) **Notification to the College** of all practice locations and material changes in practice circumstances;
  - h) Maintenance of a **patient-physician relationship** with a family physician not affiliated with his practice locations;
  - i) Appointment of a **mentor** approved by the College, with bi-weekly meetings for the first year and ongoing frequency as determined by the Registrar or Council. The mentorship condition will remain in effect until formally removed.
2. In the event that the Registrar and Dr. Al-Khafaji are unable to agree on the terms of the undertaking prior to reinstatement, the matter may be brought back to Council for resolution.
  3. The Registrar is authorized to approve any minor variations to the undertaking that do not materially affect public protection or the intent of Council's order.

**Approved by the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan:  
21 June 2025**