



Dr. Allison CHRISTIE

Council Decision

Date Charge(s) Laid:	September 30, 2017
Outcome Date:	March 29, 2019
Hearing:	Not Required
Disposition:	Reprimand, Conditions, Costs

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

- 1) Pursuant to Section 54(1)(b) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, the Council hereby reprimands Dr. Christie. The format of that reprimand will be determined by the Council;
- 2) Pursuant to section 54 (1)(g) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, Dr. Christie is required to successfully complete a prescribing course in a form acceptable to the Registrar on or before December 31, 2019. The prescribing course *Safer Opioid Prescribing Skills* offered by Saegis is a course that is acceptable to the Registrar.
- 3) Pursuant to section 54(1)(i) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, the Council directs Dr. Christie to pay the costs of and incidental to the investigation and hearing in the amount of \$600. Such payment shall be made in full by April 30, 2019;
- 4) The Council reserves to itself the right to amend any of the terms of this penalty decision, upon application by Dr. Christie. Without limiting the authority of the Council, the Council may determine what prescribing courses will meet the requirements of paragraph 2).

Dr. Christie

On 30th March 2019, the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan accepted your admission of guilt to charges of professional misconduct. As a component of the penalty, a formal reprimand was ordered.

You, Dr. Allison Christie, having been found guilty of professional misconduct while practising medicine in the province of Saskatchewan are as a result of this reprimanded by the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

The circumstances which led to your professional misconduct consist of the following:

- You failed to maintain the standard of the profession in relation to your prescribing of Prescription Review Program (PRP) medications to a patient.
- You failed to respond appropriately to the concerns identified in several letters from the Prescription Review Program of the College relating to your prescribing to a patient.
- You failed to respond to concerns identified by a pharmacist concerning your prescribing to the patient and did not utilize appropriate safeguards to address concerns about possible misuse of PRP medications by the patient.

You should be aware that the ability to prescribe PRP is a privilege and not a right. That privilege does come with responsibility. An incorrect prescription has potentially a damaging effect on the patient and to the overall population health of the community. A single move away from the standard of Opioid prescribing does have an exponentially deleterious and harmful consequence on the current opioid crisis.

Your actions were careless, insensitive and dangerous. Your conduct revealed a display of ignorance of your responsibility as a prescribing physician. It is even more embarrassing that you failed to respond to several clues to direct you to the right standard of prescribing.

Our esteemed profession takes the lead in the opioid crisis and demands from her members, carefulness, knowledge, accountability and responsibility in prescribing PRP medications. Your actions contradicted these guiding principles.

Council is encouraged that you have taken responsibility for your wrong actions and will continue to align yourself to the standard of opioid prescription as laid down by the College.

Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan