



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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Serving the public through excellence and professionalism in medical practice

MEDIA RELEASE – November 20, 2013

Dr. GHAHARY, Ali

Vancouver, BC

When reporting this release, please provide the name and location of the physician in full in order to avoid confusion with any other physician who may have a similar name or initials.

VANCOUVER, BC: Dr. Ali Ghahary, a family physician, has admitted to engaging in unprofessional conduct in 2009 for entering into a personal and sexual relationship with a patient with whom he had a patient-physician relationship. Dr. Ghahary acknowledged that the conduct was unprofessional and that the conduct should be penalized.

Following the issuance of a disciplinary citation, Dr. Ghahary consented to the following disposition by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia:

- (a) a transfer from the Full class of registration to the Conditional-Disciplined class, effective 2400 hours on September 30, 2013;
- (b) issuance of a formal Reprimand pursuant to section 39(2)(a) of the *Health Professions Act*;
- (c) an 18 month suspension from practice effective October 16, 2013, with six months of that suspension being stayed for conditions that would normally be in place but have already been met. Nine months of the remaining 12 months' suspension will be stayed if limits and conditions are met;
- (d) participation in a course of assessment and counselling with a psychiatrist(s) and/or psychologist(s) chosen and approved by the College, with reports;
- (e) participation in individual boundary coaching, with reports;
- (f) attendance at the College for an interview to discuss the conduct he admitted, the assessment(s) and counselling conducted, and his current understanding of and insight into ethical, boundary and professional issues;

- (g) use of a chaperone throughout all examinations of a sensitive nature involving female patients;
- (h) establishment of a mentorship with a physician approved by the College, with provision of reports acceptable to the College;
- (i) participation in continuing medical education in ethics and professionalism; and
- (j) compliance with any monitoring of his practice established and acceptable to the College.

Dr. Ghahary's future professional conduct must be beyond reproach in every aspect.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia is the licensing and regulatory body for all physicians and surgeons in the province. Governed by provincial legislation, the College's role is to protect the public by establishing, monitoring and enforcing high standards of qualification and ethical practice across the province.

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Media inquiries:

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