

College of Physical Therapists of British Columbia
Public Notice under s. 39.3 of the Health Professions Act

Angela Simpson, RPT

Location: Squamish, BC

Date of Action: May 18, 2021

Nature of Action: Ms. Simpson entered into a consent agreement with the Inquiry Committee of the College agreeing to the following terms:

1. undertakings:
 - a. not to repeat the conduct of failing to delineate for her patients the difference between her physical therapy and functional medicine practices;
 - b. not to repeat the conduct of describing her professional services on her invoices in a manner that is misleading;
 - c. to make an admission of professional misconduct in this matter;
 - d. to submit a plan outlining how she will ensure that her physical therapy practice will be clearly delineated from her functional medicine practice; and
 - e. not to self-refer her physical therapy patients to her functional medicine practice, with the understanding she may provide a list of functional medicine providers to her clients and her name may be included on this list;
2. a public reprimand for describing her services on invoices in a misleading manner and failing to delineate her services for her patients;
3. a three (3) day suspension of her practice of physical therapy (to commence on May 19, 2021); and
4. an agreement to cooperate with up to three (3) random audits over the next 24 months.

Reasons: The College commenced an investigation on its own motion, pursuant to section 33(4) of the *Health Professions Act* (the “Act”), into allegations that Ms. Simpson was practicing outside the scope of physical therapy and improperly billing non-physical therapy services as physical therapy.

During the investigation, Ms. Simpson advised that she started providing functional medicine services in the same location she provides physical therapy services. She admitted to failing to adequately delineate the services (with her clients or in her records), which resulted in the improper billing of 186 invoices.

The Inquiry Committee concluded that Ms. Simpson’s conduct represented an unacceptable departure from the College’s practice standards, which require the proper delineation of services and accurate invoicing for same.

Given that Ms. Simpson has accepted responsibility for her misconduct and voluntarily completed the PROBE Ethics & Boundaries course (on her own accord), the Inquiry Committee determined that the terms of the consent agreement would be sufficient to protect the public.