

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

## Shahab Rezania, RPT

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**Location:** Vancouver, BC

**Date of Action:** June 15, 2021

**Date Action Ended:** March 8, 2022

*Limits, conditions and suspensions ordered by the Inquiry Committee under section 35(1) of the Act, or by the Discipline Committee under section 38(8), are made to protect the public during an investigation, pending a hearing, or during a hearing. Measures taken under sections 35(1) or 38(8) of the Act pertained to matters which are and remain unproven unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee. Actions under sections 35(1) and 38(8) of the Act are subject to appeal by the registrant to the court.*

**Update:** On completing its investigation into this matter, the Inquiry Committee determined that these limits/conditions were no longer necessary to protect the public and cancelled the interim order on March 8, 2022.

**Nature of Action:** A panel of the Inquiry Committee made an interim order, pursuant to section 35(1)(a) of the *Health Professions Act* (the “Act”) to impose limits or conditions on Mr. Shahab Rezania’s practice of physical therapy. The limits or conditions came into effect on Saturday, June 19, 2021 and are in place until the Inquiry Committee disposes of the matter, or if it issues a citation, then pending a hearing of the Discipline Committee. The limits or conditions, briefly summarized, include the following:

- a. the respondent may not treat female patients in-person unless:
  - i. the respondent wears a form of garment, approved by the College, over his groin area during the treatment;
  - ii. the respondent notes the use of the garment in the chart of each female patient that is treated by the respondent in-person;
  - iii. the respondent advises the female patients he treats that if they are subjected to any unwanted conduct during any treatment session, they should report it to the College; and
  - iv. the respondent posts a notice advising female patients of the ability to report unwanted conduct to the College;
- b. the respondent must, once a week, provide the College with the names and contact information for all female patients he has seen, assessed or treated that week as well as provide confirmation that the notice was given and that he wore the College approved garment;
- c. the respondent will be subject to random on-site audits of his practice by the College to ensure compliance with these limits and conditions.

**Reasons:** The College received a complaint that the respondent engaged in sexual misconduct during a physical therapy treatment, which conduct could, if proven, constitute professional misconduct. The Inquiry Committee is currently investigating the matter.

The Inquiry Committee was satisfied that there is a prima facie case of professional misconduct as well as a real risk to the public, which requires that the public be protected by an interim order during the investigation.

The Inquiry Committee was satisfied that the risk to the public will be protected in a sufficient and proportionate manner through the imposition of practice limits and conditions as described above. The Inquiry Committee considered that, while a chaperone may generally be warranted for allegations of sexual misconduct, in this circumstance the Committee considered that a combination of different limits and conditions could operate to safeguard the public interest pending investigation.

**Important Note:** These limits or conditions relate to matters that are unproven, unless admitted by the respondent or determined by the Discipline Committee.