



CPTBC

College of Physical Therapists
of British Columbia

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

Ahmad Rezvani, RPT

Location: Vancouver, BC

Date of Action: June 17, 2021

Date Action Ended: January 31, 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 January 31, 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. Ahmad Rezvani's (the respondent) practice of physical therapy. The limits or conditions came into effect on Saturday, June 20, 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 unless a chaperone is present for the entire duration of the respondent's in-person treatment of the female patient and the chaperone is in a position to visually observe all treatment given by the respondent to the patient;
- b. the chaperone may be either a person whom the female patient brings, or a physiotherapy assistant employed or otherwise provided by the respondent, subject to the following conditions:
 - i. every physiotherapy assistant who acts as a chaperone must be vetted and approved by the College; and
 - ii. every physiotherapy assistant must sign a statement confirming they understand they may be contacted by the College as part of random audits;
- c. the respondent is required to advise female patients who make appointments for treatment that the treatment will be chaperoned;
- d. the respondent is required to record the names of the female patients he treats and the fact that the chaperone was present and their name;
- e. the chaperone must sign a confirmation they were in attendance at the treatment;
- f. while the limits and conditions are in effect, once a week the respondent must provide the College with the names and contact information of the female patients treated that week; and
- g. the respondent will be subject to random on-site audits by the College.

Reasons: The College received a complaint that the registrant 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 concluded that the risk stemmed from the sexual nature of the conduct alleged.

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 the imposition of a chaperone for treatment of all female patients on the terms noted above would be an appropriate measure to protect the public while the investigation is conducted.

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