

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

Chetan Phachu, RPT

Location: Metro Vancouver, BC

Date of Action: June 18, 2019

Date Action Ended: August 15, 2019

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 considering information obtained during the course of the investigation into this matter, the Inquiry Committee concluded that the interim restrictions Mr. Phachu's practice were no longer necessary to protect the public and accordingly, terminated the consent agreement on August 15, 2019.

Nature of Action: Mr. Phachu voluntarily entered into a consent agreement with the Inquiry Committee of the College agreeing that he will not provide physical therapy to female patients, whether for a fee or otherwise, except in the presence of a chaperone of the patient's choosing as of June 17, 2019. This action is temporary and does not indicate any wrongdoing.

Reasons: A patient of Mr. Phachu made a complaint to the College alleging that during her treatment, it appeared that Mr. Phachu engaged in touching which appeared to be non-therapeutic in nature. The Inquiry Committee is currently investigating the matter.

In view of the serious nature of the allegations, which if proven, would present a significant risk to public safety, the Inquiry Committee decided to conduct a hearing, under section 35(1) of the Health Professions Act, to determine whether any action may be necessary to protect the public during the investigation.

To obviate the need for a hearing, Mr. Phachu voluntarily entered into a consent agreement (as described above) which is in effect while the Inquiry Committee conducts its investigation. The Inquiry Committee is satisfied that this action is sufficient to protect the public.

Important Note: The consent agreement relates to matters, which are and remain unproven unless admitted by Mr. Phachu or determined by the Discipline Committee.