

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

Muralidharan Ramadass, RPT

Location: Surrey, BC

Date of Action: December 10, 2020

Date Action Ended: March 9, 2021

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: The Inquiry Committee ultimately made a disposition decision under s. 33(6)(c) and 36(1) of the Act to enter into a consent agreement. The s. 35 interim order ceased to have any effect at that point.

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 “HPA” or “Act”) to impose limits or conditions on Mr. Ramadass’ practice of physical therapy. The limits or conditions came into effect on December 14, 2020 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 registrant may treat female patients virtually, without a chaperone;
- b. the registrant may treat female patients in person,
 - with a chaperone that either the female patient provides, or that the registrant provides who is approved by the College in advance;
 - with signage providing notice of the chaperone requirement;
 - with disclosure of the chaperone requirement to female patients receiving in-person treatment, at the time of booking;
- c. weekly reporting to the College; and
- d. random on-site audits.

Reasons: The College received a complaint that the registrant touched a part of her body without consent, 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.

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