



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*

Riyad Ahmed Zuber, RPT

Location: Burnaby, BC

Date of Action: December 13, 2021

Date of Action Ended: March 8, 2023

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 the limits/conditions noted below were no longer necessary to protect the public and cancelled the interim order on March 8, 2023.

Nature of Action: A panel of the Inquiry Committee made interim orders pursuant to section 35(1)(a) of the *Health Professions Act* (the “Act”) imposing limits and conditions on the physical therapy practice of Mr. Riyadh Ahmed Zuber (the “Registrant”). The conditions on the Registrant’s practice came into effect on December 18, 2021, and remain 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 and conditions, briefly summarized, include the following:

1. the Registrant may not treat female clients, in-person, unless a chaperone is present;
2. the Registrant is required to advise female clients who make appointments for an in-person treatment that the treatment will be chaperoned, and give them the option to:
 - i. bring their own chaperone;
 - ii. have a physiotherapy assistant or chaperone; or
 - iii. cancel the appointment without penalty;
3. the Registrant is required to record the names of the female clients he treats in person, the fact that the chaperone was present, and the chaperone’s name;
4. the chaperone must sign a confirmation they attended and observed the treatment;
5. while the limits/conditions are in effect, the Registrant must provide the College with the names and contact information of the female clients he treated in-person each week;
6. the Registrant must display signs in his treatment room(s) advising of the chaperone requirement; and
7. the Registrant will be subject to random audits by the College to ensure his compliance with this interim order.

Reasons: The College received a complaint that the Registrant engaged in non-therapeutic touching during a physical therapy treatment, which, if proven, would constitute professional misconduct. The Inquiry Committee determined that the above limits/conditions would be an appropriate measure to protect the public while it investigates the matter.

The Inquiry Committee was satisfied that there was a *prima facie* case of professional misconduct arising from the complaint as well as a real risk to the public, which requires that the public be protected by interim orders during the investigation or pending a discipline hearing. The Inquiry Committee concluded that the risk stemmed from the nature of the conduct alleged against the Registrant.

The Inquiry Committee was satisfied that the risk to the public could be managed in a sufficient and proportionate manner through the imposition of the practice limits and conditions described above. The Inquiry Committee considered that the imposition of a chaperone for in-person treatment of female patients on the terms noted about would be an appropriate measure to protect the public while the investigation is conducted.

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