

SUMMARIES OF RECENT DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Decision One

Dr. Karl Salo
62 Stanley Street
Ayr, Ontario

ALLEGATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

- Contravened a standard of practice or failed to maintain the standards of practice of the profession (para. 1).
- Prescribed, dispensed or sold a drug for an improper purpose, or otherwise used improperly the authority to prescribe, dispense or sell drugs (para. 10).
- Failed to keep records as required by the Regulations (para. 25).
- Engaged in conduct or performed an act or acts that, having regard to all of the circumstances, would reasonably be regarded by members as disgraceful, dishonourable, unprofessional or unethical (para. 59).

BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

- Over a four-month time period, with little or no justification, member prescribed hundreds of tablets of Percocet to four patients, all of whom were related to him.
- Member attempted to disguise the true purpose of the prescription by including a prescription for antibiotics and by using variations of the patients' names and faxing to multiple pharmacies.
- Member repeatedly denied that narcotics were for his own use, but eventually made this admission.
- As an interim measure, the member voluntarily undertook to surrender his prescribing privileges, to cease practising dentistry, and to get counselling, pending the outcome of the Discipline Hearing.

DECISION

1. Finding

The member pleaded guilty and was found guilty of professional misconduct with respect to the stated allegations.

2. Penalty

- Reprimand.
- Suspension of member's certificate of registration for minimum of six consecutive months (commencing June 22, 2007). The suspension shall continue indefinitely until such time as the College approves the member's return to practice, based on recommendations from the member's treating physician, including any necessary terms, conditions and limitations to be placed on the member's certificate of registration.
- Upon return to practice, should the member relapse or breach any imposed terms, conditions or limitations, his certificate of registration shall be immediately suspended.

3. Costs/Publication

- Costs to the College in the amount of \$500.
- Publication will include the member's name and address.

4. Panel's Reasoning

- Penalty reached as a result of a joint submission.
- Panel considered both mitigating and aggravating factors present in this case.
- Panel hopes that once rehabilitated, member will be capable of returning to productive and ethical practice.
- Panel assured that the public interest is protected and will continue to be by the way the suspension is structured and by the terms, conditions and limitations that can be imposed upon the member's return to practice.



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