

DECISION 1

Dr. Lawrence Grossman
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North York, Ontario

ALLEGATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

- Contravened a standard of practice or failed to maintain the standards of practice of the profession (para. 1).
- Failed to keep records as required by the Regulations (para. 25).
- Charged a fee that was excessive or unreasonable (para. 31).

BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

- The allegations relate to the member’s treatment of one patient during the period December 2005 – August 2009.
- Member placed two Maryland bridges to replace tooth 26 and teeth 15 and 16. Both Maryland bridges were inadequate and repeatedly debonded. Member failed to recognize that the treatment had failed and he failed to document any discussions with the patient regarding treatment options.
- Patient complained of pain on tooth 46 and member made occlusal adjustments to the tooth on two occasions, after having taken a Panorex radiograph. Member failed to diagnose the need for endodontic re-treatment on tooth 46 and failed to offer patient the option of a referral to a specialist for this treatment.
- Member failed to take pre-operative radiographs of teeth 11 and 21 prior to placing crowns and failed to document the assessment, diagnosis, treatment plan or discussions with patient.

- Member’s records were generally inadequate and incomplete: no periodontal charting, an incomplete odontogram, insufficient progress notes, no diagnosis, no treatment planning, no evidence of discussions with patient, and a lack of justification for treatment rendered and fees charged.
- On a number of occasions during the period December 2005 – August 2009 for this patient, member billed for services that were not provided, not documented as provided, or made billing errors.
- On a number of occasions, member inappropriately charged patient for re-cementing the Maryland bridges.

DECISION

1. Finding

- The member pleaded guilty and was found guilty with respect to the above allegations.

2. Penalty

- Reprimand
- Suspension of certificate of registration for two months (August 14, 2011 – October 14, 2011)
- Course in recordkeeping
- Course in prosthodontics, including diagnosis, treatment planning and treatment options with respect to the placement of bridges, and the indications and contra-indications for Maryland bridges
- Course in ethics

- Practice to be monitored for 24 months following completion of courses

3. Costs/Publication

- Costs awarded to the College in the amount of \$3,000
- Member to pay monitoring costs of \$600 per inspection
- Pursuant to the legislation, publication of this matter includes the member’s name and address

4. Panel’s Reasoning

- Penalty was a joint submission resulting from a pre-hearing conference.
- Member has been practising dentistry for 31 years and has no previous disciplinary history.
- Penalty emphasizes remediation and rehabilitation of the member through courses and monitoring.
- The reprimand and suspension conveys to the general membership that the member’s misconduct is significant and cannot be tolerated.
- The public is assured that members are held accountable for conduct and treatment that falls below an acceptable standard. The rehabilitative component of the penalty will benefit both present and future patients of this member.