

**SUMMARY of the Decision of the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee  
(the Committee)**  
(Information is available about the complaints process [here](#) and about the Committee [here](#))

**Dr. Tat Hang Wong (CPSO #60961)  
(the Respondent)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Respondent was the Patient's family physician from 1993 until mid-2018.

The Complainant (a family member of the Patient) contacted the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (the College) to express concerns about the Respondent's conduct.

## **COMPLAINANT'S CONCERNS**

**The Complainant is concerned that the Respondent breached professional boundaries in that he is listed as the sole beneficiary and executor of the Patient's will and insurance plans and has authority on her safety deposit box, although he was her primary care physician.**

**The Complainant is further concerned that the Respondent breached professional boundaries by employing the Patient while she was also a patient under his care.**

## **COMMITTEE'S DECISION**

A General Panel of the Committee considered this matter at its meeting of August 20, 2019. The Committee required the Respondent to attend at the College to be cautioned in person with respect to his failure to maintain appropriate boundaries with a patient, including by offering the patient employment, accompanying her to appointments, and agreeing to act as an executor to her will. The Committee also accepted an undertaking signed by the Respondent.

## **COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS**

- The Respondent admits that the Patient was a close personal friend before he provided care to her. The Respondent failed to maintain appropriate physician-patient boundaries in multiple ways. He employed the Patient (if only for a short time), received gifts from the Patient, accompanied her to personal appointments, agreed to act as an executor of the Patient's will, and took her on as a patient even with their close personal relationship. All of these actions crossed physician-patient boundaries outlined in the College's policy *Physician Treatment of Self, Family Members, or Others Close to Them*.

- The Committee recognized that it is possible the Respondent simply thought he was being kind. However, in the Committee's view, he should have been aware that he was not maintaining appropriate boundaries with the Patient, and of the fact that it was his obligation to maintain appropriate boundaries.
- The Committee acknowledged that the Respondent showed insight into his boundary violations, and signed an undertaking to further his education in this regard. As a result, they were satisfied that the undertaking and a caution would be sufficient to address their concerns in this case.