

**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. Ali Abbas Syed (CPSO# 33846)
Anaesthesiology
(the Respondent)

INTRODUCTION

In October 2021, the College's Premises Inspection Committee issued a grade of "Fail" to an Out-of-Hospital Premises (the OHP) for which the Respondent had acted as Medical Director. Concerns were raised about the Respondent's actions as Medical Director. Subsequently, the Committee approved the Registrar's appointment of investigators to examine whether the Respondent engaged in professional misconduct and/or is incompetent in the role of Medical Director of an OHP.

DISPOSITION

The Committee considered this matter at its meeting of April 6, 2022.

The Committee required the Respondent to appear before the Committee to be cautioned with respect to the bad judgement demonstrated in taking on a role of great responsibility without understanding or making adequate attempts to fulfil the duties, putting patients at potential risk of harm. The Committee also required the Respondent to prepare a report to be discussed at the caution, with respect to fulfilling and adhering to the professional and ethical codes (i.e. the College's Practice Guide) of being a regulated health professional and understanding the Out-of-Hospital Premises Inspection Program Standards, which ensure appropriate governance and the provision of high quality and safe patient care in these premises.

The Committee also accepted an undertaking from the Respondent, which included a practice restriction not to act as Medical Director of any Out-of-Hospital premises, as defined in Part XI of Ontario Regulation 1114/94 under the *Medicine Act, 1991*, and the College's Out-of-Hospital Premises Inspection Program Standards.

COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS

The Committee noted that the Respondent did not fulfil the duties required of a physician in the position of Medical Director and made minimal to no effort to understand those duties. The Respondent was accountable for ensuring all the Out-of-Hospital Premises Inspection Program Standards were met and maintained at the OHP.

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The Respondent acknowledged this fact, expressed regret for his actions, and recognized that he should have exercised greater oversight.

Not only did the Respondent agree to take on an important quality and safety role and then failed to fulfil any of his responsibilities, but he in effect circumvented the intention of the College to not allow the previous Medical Director to continue in this role by delegating the duties back to that physician. In the Committee's view, this demonstrated bad judgment and may have caused harm or had the potential to cause harm to patients.

In light of the above, the Committee required the Respondent to appear before it to be cautioned as outlined above. The Committee also accepted an undertaking from the Respondent, to address the deficiencies noted in this case, as set out above.