

**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. Mujeeb Rehman (CPSO #76946)
(the Respondent)**

INTRODUCTION

The Complainant was taken to hospital by police and EMS in March 2020 after attempting suicide. She was admitted to hospital on a Form 1 under the *Mental Health Act*. The Respondent acted as the Complainant's most responsible physician for two days.

The Complainant contacted the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (the College) to express concern about the Respondent's care.

COMPLAINANT'S CONCERNS

<p>The Complainant is concerned that the Respondent did not submit a mandatory report to the College regarding the sexual relationship she was having with her family physician.</p>

COMMITTEE'S DECISION

A General Panel of the Committee considered this matter at its meeting of January 5, 2022. The Committee required the Respondent to appear before it to be cautioned in person with respect to performing his duties under the College's *Mandatory and Permissive Reporting* policy.

COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS

The emergency treatment record indicated that the Complainant reported that she attempted suicide after having a fight with her boyfriend, who was also her physician. The psychiatrist who assessed the Complainant on the day following her admission wrote a consultation note that indicated the Complainant's boyfriend "did say he was her family doctor in the past but not at the present moment."

It was very concerning to the Committee that the Respondent failed to submit a mandatory report to the College despite being aware that the Complainant was in or had been in a sexual relationship with her family physician. The Respondent was clearly obligated to do so under College policy.

The Respondent failed to conduct an appropriate psychiatric investigation of a vulnerable and suicidal patient. He relied on the notes in the medical record from the earlier psychiatry assessment. Although he was anticipating that the Complainant would undergo more thorough assessment once her care was transferred to the in-patient psychiatric team, the Respondent was the Complainant's most responsible physician for two days and had ample opportunity to inquire about her relationship with her family physician. His failure to learn about the relationship meant that he did not understand its import.

The Committee considered the Respondent's failure to explore the issue of sexual abuse of a patient and make a mandatory report to the College to be a significant omission. The College takes the issue of sexual abuse of patients, and physicians' duty to report such misconduct, very seriously; therefore, and despite the fact that the Respondent proactively completed education in this area, the Committee decided to require the Respondent to appear before a panel of the Committee, as set out above.