

**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. Lucille Necas (CPSO# 52693)
Psychiatry
(the Respondent)

INTRODUCTION

The College received information reporting concerns that the Respondent had promoted the Vaccine Choice Canada website to at least one of her patients, that she provided anti-vaccine information to a patient and told another patient to remove their mask for an in-office visit.

Subsequently, the Committee approved the Registrar's appointment of investigators to review the Respondent's conduct.

DISPOSITION

The Committee considered this matter at its meeting of October 13, 2022. The Committee decided to require the Respondent:

- to appear before a Panel of the Committee to be cautioned to adhere to Public Health policies and guidelines, maintain professionalism and cooperate fully with a College investigation; and
- to complete a specified continuing education or remediation program to include an ethics course for healthcare professionals.

COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS

The Committee was concerned about the potential impact of the Respondent's conduct on patient safety and public interest.

The Respondent acknowledged that she was giving some of her patients the option to remove their masks during their appointments and that she was not wearing a mask for the length of a psychotherapy session while not having a formal mask exemption. The Committee was concerned about the Respondent's seeming unwillingness to abide by Public Health procedures during the COVID-19 pandemic, put in place in order to reduce the risk of spreading the COVID-19 virus.

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The Respondent confirmed that she did refer patients to the Vaccine Choice Canada website. In the Committee's opinion, the content of this website included false, misleading and possibly dangerous information and the Committee was troubled that the Respondent would be referring her patients to this information.

The Committee concluded that the Respondent needed to improve the following areas of practice:

- demonstrating a commitment to patient safety by sharing information with patients that is supported by available evidence and science;
- fulfilling and adhering to the professional and ethical codes of being a regulated health professional; and
- participating in self-regulation by cooperating with the College in good faith.

The Respondent failed to meet her statutory obligations by failing to provide to the College information that was reasonably relevant to the investigation. This made it more difficult for the Committee to address the appropriateness of the conduct at issue.

In light of the above, the Committee determined that it was appropriate to caution the Respondent and require her to complete further remediation, as outlined above.