

**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. Jeffrey Arthur Middaugh (CPSO #92229)  
(the Respondent)**

**INTRODUCTION**

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

**COMMITTEE'S DECISION**

A General Panel of the Committee considered this matter at its meeting of April 3, 2024. The Committee required the Respondent to appear before a Panel of the Committee to be cautioned with respect to a boundary violation of his professional privilege and a lack of professional judgement in providing an unnamed, undated, and signed prescription to an acquaintance with whom he has no therapeutic relationship.

**COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS**

The Respondent admits that he provided an unnamed, undated, unsigned prescription for exercise to an acquaintance who is a gym owner. In the Committee's view, this showed a major lack of judgement and was unethical, unprofessional and a boundary violation of his professional privilege.

The Committee was not satisfied with the Respondent's explanation that he completed the prescription "in jest" to motivate gym patrons or to provide "levity" during the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, the Committee noted that the Respondent filled out the prescription in a manner that could allow it to be easily used in a fraudulent way by leaving parts of it blank and included his real signature and CPSO number. The Respondent did nothing to indicate on the prescription that it was not valid, such as writing "VOID," "INVALID" or "JOKE" or crossing out portions of the prescription.

The Respondent completed the prescription in a manner that would have allowed the gym owner to indiscriminately copy and provide prescriptions for exercise to gym patrons. In addition, this would have undermined COVID-19 restrictions if the gym owner provided these prescriptions when restrictions were in place.

This is a summary of the Committee's decision as it relates to the Caution disposition.