

SUMMARY

DR. TSAI YU (CPSO# 53778)

1. Disposition

On November 18, 2016, the Inquiries, Complaints and Reports Committee (the Committee) required general practitioner Dr. Yu to appear before a panel of the Committee to be cautioned with respect to his failure to comply with his practice restrictions.

2. Introduction

The College received information raising concerns that Dr. Yu had prescribed short-acting narcotics to several patients, and subsequently, the Committee approved the Registrar's appointment of investigators to determine if Dr. Yu was in breach of his 2011 undertaking with the College.

3. Committee Process

A Surgical Panel of the Committee, consisting of public and physician members, met to review the relevant records and documents related to the investigation. The Committee always has before it applicable legislation and regulations, along with policies that the College has developed, which reflect the College's professional expectations for physicians practising in Ontario. Current versions of these documents are available on the College's website at www.cpso.on.ca, under the heading "Policies & Publications."

4. Committee's Analysis

In February 2011, Dr. Yu entered into an undertaking with the College to stop prescribing narcotics and other targeted substances.

In September 2015, a compliance monitor from the College indicated that the Narcotic Monitoring System (NMS) provided information demonstrating that Dr. Yu was in breach of his undertaking, as he had prescribed short-acting narcotics to several patients.

Based on the above, the Committee had concerns about Dr. Yu's prescribing practices and his failure to comply with practice restrictions.

Dr. Yu agreed to restrict his practice pursuant to a new undertaking (a voluntary, binding promise which the physician makes to the College), under which he gave up his prescribing privileges and agreed not to issue new prescriptions or renew existing prescriptions for narcotic drugs, narcotic preparations, controlled drugs, benzodiazepines and other targeted substances, and all other monitored drugs, with the exception of certain, enumerated substances. The undertaking also requires Dr. Yu to post specific signs in his practice locations relating to the above restriction.

The Committee accepted the undertaking and was satisfied that it, along with a caution (as described above) would address the concerns identified in the College's investigation about Dr. Yu's prescribing practices and failure to comply with practice restrictions.