

**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. Vinod Kunhiraman Nair (CPSO# 70381)
Anesthesiology
(the Respondent)

INTRODUCTION

The College received information raising concerns regarding the Respondent's prescribing ivermectin for treatment of COVID-19 through the telehealth provider, Canadian COVID Telehealth Inc. (CCTI). Subsequently, the Committee approved the Registrar's appointment of investigators to conduct a broad review of the Respondent's practice.

COMMITTEE'S DECISION

A panel of the Committee considered this matter at its meeting of April 3, 2023. The Committee required the Respondent to appear before the Committee to be cautioned with respect to following College and public health guidelines in a pandemic, following medical records policies, and practising within his scope of practice. In addition, the Committee accepted an undertaking from the Respondent.

COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS

As part of this investigation, the Registrar appointed an independent Assessor to review a number of the Respondent's patient charts and submit a written report to the Committee. The Assessor set out that the Respondent's practice at CCTI was outside the scope of anesthesia, failed to meet the standard of practice in the discipline, and that the Respondent demonstrated a lack of judgment. The Assessor also concluded that the Respondent's therapeutic decision making, such as prescribing ivermectin, may have placed patients at risk of harm in most of his patient encounters at CCTI as these decisions fell outside the scope of the discipline and was in contradiction to best evidence.

The Registrar also appointed an independent Assessor to submit a written report to the Committee on therapeutic treatment of COVID-19. In their report, the Assessor indicated that avoidance of non-evidence-based therapies outside of clinical trials, such as ivermectin, is important for ensuring patients receive appropriate therapy.

During the investigation, the Respondent was unable to provide complete medical records from CCTI and advised that, contrary to the College's *Medical Records*

Management policy, he did not have a written agreement with CCTI that establishes custodianship and clear accountabilities regarding CCTI's medical records.

The Committee agreed with the Assessor's conclusion that the Respondent's care for patients at CCTI was outside his scope of practice as an anesthesiologist, failed to meet the standard of practice, and that he demonstrated a lack of judgement, all of which may have placed patients at risk of harm. On this basis, the Committee decided to require the Respondent to appear before a panel of the Committee to be cautioned. The Respondent has also signed an undertaking containing the following elements: practice restrictions, professional education, and monitoring.