

**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. Roman Elinson (CPSO #85764)**  
**Family Medicine**  
**(the Respondent)**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Complainant, an insurance provider, expressed concerns about the Respondent's prescribing of orthotics, and his relationship with a chiropractor in prescribing medical devices to patients. The Complainant contacted the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (the College) to express concerns about the Respondent's conduct.

## **COMPLAINANT'S CONCERNS**

**The Complainant is concerned that the Respondent had a business relationship with a chiropractor who had been handing out pre-signed prescriptions for orthotics and shoe modifications.**

## **COMMITTEE'S DECISION**

A Family Practice Panel of the Committee considered this matter at its meeting of April 7, 2022. The Committee required the Respondent to appear before a Panel of the Committee to be cautioned with respect to the importance of assessing patients when writing a prescription and regarding the importance of considering the ethics behind relationships with other healthcare providers and financial arrangements. The Committee has also decided that it is prepared to accept an undertaking from the Respondent with respect to professional education on medical professionalism and physicians' relationships with industry, uninsured services, completion of the PROBE: Ethics & Boundaries program, and monitoring of his practice locations.

## **COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS**

As part of this investigation, the Committee retained an independent Assessor who specializes in Family Medicine. The Assessor opined that the Respondent displayed a lack of judgement by offering pre-signed prescriptions to a specific practitioner and benefitting financially from the prescriptions.

The Committee agreed with the Assessor's conclusion that the Respondent showed a lack of judgement in providing pre-signed prescriptions to the chiropractor for orthotics, and that it showed a level of coordination between the two professionals beyond that which would be deemed appropriate. The Committee noted that it is a conflict of

interest for a physician to direct a patient to a specific vendor, pharmacy, or clinic and to receive financial compensation in return based on such direction.

Given the concerning nature of the conflict identified, the Committee determined that it was appropriate to caution the Respondent as noted above. The Committee also felt that the Respondent would benefit from professional education as outlined in the undertaking he entered into.