

**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. John Peter Chong (CPSO# 31249)

INTRODUCTION

The College received information raising concerns about Dr. Chong's clinical practice, including his documentation and how he described his credentials. Subsequently, the Committee approved the Registrar's appointment of investigators to conduct a broad review of Dr. Chong's practice.

COMMITTEE'S DECISION

The Committee considered this matter at its meeting of April 2, 2019. The Committee required Dr. Chong to attend at the College to be cautioned in person with respect to his practice of psychotherapy, medical record-keeping, boundaries, opioid prescribing, treatment of patients out of scope, and with respect to ensuring accuracy in how he describes his credentials.

The Committee also accepted an undertaking from Dr. Chong.

COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS

As part of this investigation, the Registrar appointed an independent Assessor to review a number of Dr. Chong's patient charts, interview Dr. Chong, and submit a written report to the Committee.

The Assessor opined that Dr. Chong failed to meet standard of practice in 14/15 cases reviewed. Deficiencies included his continuing primary care to many long-term patients for issues outside his current scope; failures in primary care, with no Cumulative Patient Profiles (CPPs) and a lack of treatments; substandard documentation with incoherent narratives for subjective and objective portions and unprofessional language; a lack of or poor musculoskeletal examinations; frequently ordering EMGs without commenting on results; failing to adhere to guidelines respecting opioid or cannabinoid prescribing; and issuing long term prescriptions. The Assessor further identified concerns with treating patients out of scope and with treating a person whom he knew in another context, which was a boundaries issue.

The Assessor identified numerous issues showing a lack of judgment, skill and knowledge.

The Assessor was of the view that Dr. Chong's care exposed patients to a risk of harm in 5/15 cases. This included failing to follow opioid guidelines (not undertaking risk assessment or urine drug screening) and by prolonging psychotherapy, creating disabling dependency.

The Committee was satisfied that its concerns in this case would be satisfied if Dr. Chong entered into an undertaking to restrict his psychotherapy practice, undertake continuing professional education, practice under supervision for one year, and submit to a reassessment after the conclusion of the supervision, coupled with a caution in person in which it would address the above concerns, and would also address the concern about how Dr. Chong described his credentials.