

**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. Vishvaraj Rathod (CPSO # 119898)
(the Respondent)**

INTRODUCTION

The Patient was the Respondent's patient for approximately two years. The physician-patient relationship ended when the Respondent temporarily relocated to another country.

When the Respondent returned to Canada, he contacted the Patient about personal matters, including an extramarital affair he previously had with an individual who was also known to the Patient.

COMMITTEE'S DECISION

The Committee considered this matter at its meeting of June 4, 2025. The Committee required the Respondent to appear before a Panel of the Committee to be cautioned with respect to maintaining appropriate professional boundaries.

The Respondent also provided an undertaking to the College, which included professional education.

COMMITTEE'S ANALYSIS

Both parties agreed that the Respondent contacted the Patient, when she was no longer his patient, and discussed aspects of his personal life, including his extramarital affair with another individual. Additionally, both parties agreed that the Respondent had his then-wife (a physician in the United Kingdom) sit in on one of his clinical encounters with the Patient.

The Respondent explained that the incidents referred to by the Patient took place during a time of profound personal stress. He acknowledged that his actions were inappropriate. He also described steps he has taken to ensure his behaviour does not deteriorate in a similar fashion going forward, including counselling and professional education.

The College's policy, *Boundary Violations*, states that a boundary violation "occurs when a physician does not establish and/or maintain the limits of a professional relationship with their patient."

The policy contemplates both sexual and non-sexual boundaries. With respect to non-sexual boundaries, the policy states that “physicians must establish and maintain appropriate boundaries with patients at all times, including with respect to social or financial/business matters and must not exploit the power imbalance inherent in the physician-patient relationship.”

The Committee was of the view that the Respondent’s behaviour raised serious non-sexual boundary violation concerns. In particular, the Committee was concerned that the Respondent:

- Contacted the Patient, when she was no longer his patient, and shared details of his personal life, including an extramarital affair.
- Had his then-wife, who was a physician undergoing family medicine training in the United Kingdom, sit in on a clinical encounter with the Patient. It is inappropriate for a physician to act as a preceptor or supervisor for a medical student who is his or her spouse. Similarly, it is inappropriate to see a patient jointly with one’s spouse unless it is clinically indicated.

In the Committee’s view, the Respondent failed to establish and maintain appropriate boundaries with the Patient, including with respect to social matters, contrary to the College’s *Boundary Violations* policy.

Given the serious breach of the College’s expectations under the College’s policy, *Boundary Violations*, the Committee determined that it was appropriate to caution the Respondent and to obtain an undertaking from him.

This is a summary of the Committee’s decision as it relates to the caution disposition.