
Oct. 1, 2020

Dr. John Slanina sanctioned for unprofessional conduct

Edmonton, AB – Sherwood Park General Practitioner Dr. John Slanina was found guilty of unprofessional conduct earlier in 2020, after he began providing medical care for a woman with whom he was in a sexual relationship and failing to disclose this relationship to CPSA.

While physicians can provide care to family members in emergency situations, Dr. Slanina issued several prescriptions and ordered a number of tests for his then-common-law partner, which established a physician-patient relationship. Having a personal relationship with a patient, regardless of when the personal relationship began, is unacceptable.

The hearing tribunal ordered the following sanctions:

1. Dr. Slanina's practice permit will be suspended for 12 months, with six months served and six months held in abeyance on the completion of the following sanction orders:
 - a. Dr. Slanina shall attend at his own cost and must pass the *Probe: Ethics & Boundaries Program-Canada*.
 - b. If he does not pass the program, Dr. Slanina must undergo, at his own cost, a multi-disciplinary assessment and be required to comply with any practice conditions arising out of the assessment report.
2. Dr. Slanina must pay two-thirds of the total investigation and hearing cost.

An Act to Protect Patients does not apply to this case since the complaint predates that legislation.

Resources:

[CPSA hearing tribunal sanction decision](#)

[CPSA hearing tribunal decision](#)

[Media release May 8, 2020](#)

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The College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta is the regulator for all physicians and surgeons in the province and is governed by the Health Professions Act. Our role is to protect the public by issuing practice permits to those who meet educational and training criteria, hold Alberta physicians to ethical and medical practice standards, and investigate and resolve physician-related complaints. CPSA also ensures the safety and quality of medical and diagnostic testing services in Alberta through an independent accreditation program.

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