
June 1, 2020

Family Physician from Ponoka admits to unprofessional conduct

Edmonton, AB – Dr. Robert Halse, a Family Physician from Ponoka, admitted to charges of unprofessional conduct and was sanctioned by a CPSA hearing tribunal.

According to a joint submission from Dr. Halse and CPSA, the care Dr. Halse provided a patient in April 2018 was inadequate and lacking in the skill expected of a Family Physician. He also failed to properly supervise a medical student he was working with that day. This lapse in judgement led to the patient suffering a stroke, resulting in permanent disability.

Dr. Halse accepted responsibility for his conduct. The hearing tribunal accepted the joint submission and ordered the following sanctions:

1. Dr. Halse will receive a reprimand.
2. Dr Halse cannot supervise medical learners unless he receives written approval from CPSA's Complaints Director.
3. At his own cost, Dr. Halse will undergo a review of his practice.
4. If Dr. Halse would like to continue supervising medical learners, the practice review must include an assessment of his supervision skills.
5. Dr. Halse must implement any changes recommended in the practice review and as determined by the Complaints Director.
6. The hearing tribunal will make the final decision if there is disagreement on the changes required to Dr. Halse's practice.
7. Dr. Halse is responsible for 75 per cent of the costs of the investigation and hearing.

Resources:

[CPSA Hearing Tribunal decision](#)

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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.

Media Inquiries:

Jessica McPhee, Director of Communications
Phone: 780 401 0972
Email: jessica.mcphee@cpsa.ab.ca