

## Dr. Jacek STEPLEWSKI

## **Council Decision**

Date Charge(s) Laid: March 20, 2 Outcome Date: June 18, 20 Hearing: June 18, 20 Disposition: Reprimand, Fine Costs

March 20, 2021 June 18, 2021 June 18, 2021 Reprimand, Conditions, Fine, Costs

The Council adopted a joint submission proposed by legal counsel for Dr. Steplewski and the Registrar's Office and imposed the following penalty on Dr. Jacek Steplewski pursuant to *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*:

- 1) Pursuant to Section 54(1)(e) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, the Council hereby reprimands Dr. Steplewski. The format of that reprimand will be in written format.
- 2) Pursuant to section 54(1)(g) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, Council requires that within 6 months Dr. Steplewski successfully complete an ethics course on professionalism to the satisfaction of the Registrar. The programs "Medical Ethics, Boundaries and Professionalism" by Case Western Reserve University, "Probe Program" by CPEP and "Medical Ethics and Professionalism" by Professional Boundaries Inc., are ethics programs acceptable to the Registrar.
- 3) Pursuant to section 54(1)(f) of *The Medical Profession Act, 1981*, Council imposes a fine of \$5,000 on Dr. Steplewski, payable on or before August 18, 2021.
- 4) Pursuant to section 54(1)(i) of the Act, the Council directs Dr. Steplewski to pay the costs of and incidental to the investigation and hearing in the amount of \$3,314.98. The costs shall be payable in full by August 18, 2021.
- 5) Pursuant to section 54(2) of the Act, if Dr. Steplewski should fail to pay the costs as required by paragraph 4, Dr. Steplewski's licence shall be suspended until the costs are paid in full;
- 6) The Council reserves to itself the right to amend any of the terms of this penalty decision, upon application by Dr. Steplewski. Without limiting the authority of the Council, the Council may extend the time for Dr. Steplewski to pay the costs required by paragraph 4.



College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan

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REGISTRAR KAREN SHAW, M.D.

20 September, 2021

Dr. J. Steplewski



Dear Dr. Steplewski,

On Friday June 18, 2021, the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan accepted your admission of guilt to charges of unprofessional conduct. These charges were related to your inappropriate billing of services to the Medical Services Branch (MSB). You submitted billings to MSB for briefly reviewing questionnaires and body temperatures of your employees to determine fitness to work on a daily basis. These billings were completely unjustified.

The Council of the College of Physician and Surgeons has imposed penalties pursuant to The Medical Professional Act, 1981. These penalties include a fine, a requirement to take an ethics course, payment of costs and a written reprimand.

You, Dr. J. Steplewski, having been found guilty of professional misconduct while practicing medicine in the province of Saskatchewan are hereby reprimanded by the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

Physicians have a fiscal responsibility to the health system to ensure that patients receive value for the services they have been provided. We must be mindful of the trust that society has placed in us to responsibly steward the financial resources of our health system. You failed in this regard.

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To serve the public by regulating the practice of medicine and guiding the profession to achieve the highest standards of care Council considered the mitigating factors put forwards by your counsel and acknowledged that this was an isolated incident in your otherwise good record. We also recognize that you were instructed by the owner of the clinic that these billings were appropriate. Nonetheless, it is your responsibility to personally ensure that all billings submitted meet acceptable standards.

It is the hope of Council that you reflect upon your lapse in ethics, and strive to maintain the high professional and ethical standards that we expect.

Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan