

IN THE MATTER OF
The Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996 c. 183

Between:

THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

And:

DR. DEANNA GEDDO POK also known as DR. DEANNA GEDDO

ORDER OF THE INQUIRY COMMITTEE

Under s. 37.1 of the *Health Professions Act*

The Inquiry Committee of the College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia (the “College”) accepted a proposal for resolution submitted by the registrant, Dr. Deanna Geddo Pok on June 15, 2020 (the “Proposal”) and accordingly issues this Order, pursuant to section 37.1(3)(a) of the *Health Professions Act*. The Proposal is attached to and forms part of this Order.

The Inquiry Committee accepts Dr. Geddo Pok’s admissions that she committed professional misconduct, in that, with respect to a number of patients, she:

- a. Failed to develop an adequate treatment plan and/or conduct the necessary diagnostic assessments to do so;
- b. Provided treatment without having first obtained valid informed consent, including failing to provide a reasonable review, with risks, benefits, and costs, of all valid treatment options;
- c. Provided treatment that fell below the College’s expected standards;
- d. Failed to maintain adequate patient records in accordance with the College’s expected standard for recordkeeping.

After a review of the concerns identified in the College’s investigation and Dr. Geddo Pok’s admissions, and the comprehensive remedial actions proposed, the Inquiry Committee accepted the Proposal. Given that Dr. Geddo Pok had previously undergone a directed educational program arising from another complaint in the past, the Inquiry Committee considered that a comprehensive mentorship after an assessment of her knowledge, skills, and abilities conducted by a mentor, and an ongoing period of mentorship and monitoring with regular reporting, was required.

The Inquiry Committee therefore orders as follows:

1. Dr. Geddo Pok must do all of the following within the time specified:
 - a. Successfully complete the “for credit” version of the College’s “More Tough Topics” online course, within 3 months of this Order;
 - b. Review the College’s Dental Recordkeeping Guidelines and successfully complete the “for credit” version of the associated online course, within 3 months of this Order; and
 - c. Review each of the twelve episodes in the CDA Oasis video presentation series “A Systematic Approach to Using Radiology in the Dental Practice”, within 6 months of this Order.
2. Within 6 months of this Order, Dr. Geddo Pok must complete a comprehensive assessment of her knowledge, skills and abilities conducted by a mentor designated by the College, and must enter into an education and remediation agreement as directed by a mentor designated by the College, such agreement to include, without limitation, endodontics, periodontics, and restorative dentistry.
3. Dr. Geddo Pok must participate in the following clinical mentorships with a mentor designated by the College, for a minimum total duration of 12 months following the completion of the assessment described in paragraph 2, as follows:
 - a. One half-day mentorship session, no less than once every two months for 12 months, to review and provide oversight of diagnosis, treatment planning, and clinical treatment; and
 - b. Any continuing mentorship or oversight as is recommended by the mentor designated by the College, at their sole discretion.
4. Dr. Geddo Pok must arrange with the mentor designated by the College for reports to be provided to the College as follows:
 - a. Upon completion of the assessment of Dr. Geddo Pok’s knowledge, skills and abilities as outlined in paragraph 2;
 - b. At least once every three months during the period of mentorship outlined in paragraph 3(a);
 - c. Upon completion of the period of mentorship outlined in paragraph 3(a); and
 - d. In connection with any continuing mentorship or oversight recommended by the mentor designated by the College, as outlined in paragraph 3(b).

5. Dr. Geddo Pok must pay partial costs of the investigation in the amount of \$2,000 to the College within 30 days of this Order.
6. Dr. Geddo Pok is subject to all further acknowledgments and conditions stated in the Proposal, all of which are incorporated by reference and form part of this Order.

This Order is effective June __23__, 2020.

The Order is approved by the Panel of the Inquiry Committee as indicated by their signatures below:

Dr. Greg Card, Panel Chair

Date

Dr. Suzanne Carlisle, Panel Member

Date

Ms. Marg Vandenberg, Panel Member

Date

IN THE MATTER OF
The Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996 c. 183

Between:

THE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGEONS OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA

And:

DR. DEANNA GEDDO POK also known as DR. DEANNA GEDDO

**CONSENT ORDER PROPOSAL TO
INQUIRY COMMITTEE**

REGISTRANT ADMISSIONS AND CONSENTS

Citation issued: April 30, 2020
Hearing dates: July 12-13, 2020
Proposal submitted: June 15, 2020

1.0 AUTHORITY AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 1.1 As permitted under section 37.1(1) of the *Health Professions Act* (the “*HPA*”), Dr. Geddo Pok hereby provides this consent order proposal to the Inquiry Committee (the “Committee”) of the College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia (the “College”).
- 1.2 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges that acceptance of this proposal by the Committee would result in the Committee making an order consistent with the proposal, which order would be considered to be that of the Discipline Committee for all purposes in accordance with section 37.1(3)(a) of the *HPA*.
- 1.3 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges that rejection of this proposal by the Committee would result in the hearing of the citation in this matter proceeding and that the Discipline Committee in that hearing must not consider any admission or consent provided herein.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Dr. Geddo Pok registered with the College as a dentist in 2002. Dr. Geddo Pok owns a dental practice in Victoria, British Columbia.
- 2.2 In 2013, the College received a complaint from a patient about Dr. Geddo Pok. The College’s investigation of the complaint identified concerns with respect to her diagnosis and treatment planning, informed consent, recordkeeping, and fixed prosthodontic treatment.
- 2.3 To address the concerns identified in the investigation, Dr. Geddo Pok entered into a Memorandum of Agreement and Understanding with the College (the “MAU”). The MAU required Dr. Geddo Pok to undertake certain remedial steps and participate in a mentorship. The MAU also included Dr. Geddo Pok’s undertakings with respect to her future practice in the areas of treatment planning and recordkeeping.
- 2.4 The mentorship included case reviews, and a review of Dr. Geddo Pok’s patient records by the mentor. At the conclusion of the mentorship, some concerns remained and it was agreed that the College would conduct an additional review of Dr. Geddo Pok’s patient records.
- 2.5 The College’s review of Dr. Geddo Pok’s patient records identified ongoing concerns with respect to Dr. Geddo Pok’s diagnosis and treatment planning, informed consent protocols, recordkeeping, fixed prosthodontic treatment, and failure to offer her patients referrals for specialist periodontic or endodontic treatment.
- 2.6 In 2017, the College received two additional complaints from patients of Dr. Geddo Pok.

2.7 On April 9, 2019, the Committee directed the Registrar to issue a citation under section 37 of the *HPA*.

2.8 The citation was issued on April 30, 2020, alleging that Dr. Geddo Pok had committed professional misconduct with respect to treatment provided for nine patients.

3.0 ADMISSIONS

3.1 Dr. Geddo Pok admits to professional misconduct in that, with respect to a number of patients, she:

- a. Failed to develop an adequate treatment plan and/or conduct the necessary diagnostic assessments to do so;
- b. Provided treatment without having first obtained valid informed consent, including failing to provide a reasonable review, with risks, benefits, and costs, of all valid treatment options;
- c. Provided treatment that fell below the College's expected standards;
- d. Failed to maintain adequate patient records in accordance with the College's expected standard for recordkeeping.

4.0 CONSENT TO ORDER

4.1 Given Dr. Geddo Pok's admissions above, Dr. Geddo Pok proposes resolution of the citation on the following terms:

A) Completion of coursework

4.2 Dr. Geddo Pok must do all of the following within the time specified:

4.2.1 Successfully complete the "for credit" version of the College's "More Tough Topics" online course, within 3 months of the acceptance of this proposal;

4.2.2 Review the College's Dental Recordkeeping Guidelines and successfully complete the "for credit" version of the associated online course, within 3 months of the acceptance of this proposal; and

4.2.3 Review each of the twelve episodes in the CDA Oasis video presentation series "A Systematic Approach to Using Radiology in the Dental Practice", within 6 months of the acceptance of this proposal.

B) Assessment, remediation, and mentorship

4.3 Within 6 months of the acceptance of this proposal, Dr. Geddo Pok must complete a comprehensive assessment of her knowledge, skills and abilities

conducted by a mentor designated by the College, and undertake to enter into an education and remediation agreement as directed by a mentor designated by the College, such agreement to include, without limitation, endodontics, periodontics, and restorative dentistry.

- 4.4 Dr. Geddo Pok must participate in the following clinical mentorships with a mentor designated by the College, for a minimum total duration of 12 months following the completion of the assessment described in paragraph 4.3, as follows:
 - 4.4.1 One half-day mentorship session, no less than once every two months for 12 months, to review and provide oversight of diagnosis, treatment planning, and clinical treatment; and
 - 4.4.2 Any continuing mentorship or oversight as is recommended by the mentor designated by the College, in their sole discretion.
- 4.5 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges and agrees that the mentor designated by the College will provide reports to the College as follows:
 - 4.5.1 Upon completion of the assessment of Dr. Geddo Pok's knowledge, skills and abilities as outlined in paragraph 4.3;
 - 4.5.2 At least once every three months during the period of mentorship outlined in paragraph 4.4.1;
 - 4.5.3 Upon completion of the period of mentorship outlined in paragraph 4.4.1; and
 - 4.5.4 In connection with any continuing mentorship or oversight recommended by the mentor designated by the College, as outlined in paragraph 4.4.2.
- 4.6 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges and agrees that any mentor acting in accordance with this proposal may communicate directly with the College at any time regarding Dr. Geddo Pok's progress, including any concerns they may have with any aspect of her clinical performance.

C) Payment of partial investigation costs

- 4.7 Dr. Geddo Pok must pay partial costs of the investigation in the amount of \$2,000, which amount must be paid with 30 days of the acceptance of this proposal.

5.0 FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AGREEMENT

A) Costs

- 5.1 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges and agrees that all courses, assessments, mentorships, reports to the College, or other steps required to comply with this proposal will be entirely at Dr. Geddo Pok's own expense, including any reports required to be provided to the College.

B) Non-compliance

- 5.2 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges that the failure to satisfy any one or more of the terms herein may constitute professional misconduct or unprofessional conduct and may trigger an investigation and disciplinary proceedings in accordance with the provisions in the *HPA*.

C) Publication

- 5.3 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges and agrees that an order made based upon this proposal results in mandatory public notification as set out in section 39.3 of the *HPA*, and CDSBC Bylaws including her understanding that her name, the nature of the action taken and the reason for the action taken will be included in this public notice. The College will issue the public notification in the form and by the means that it sees fit.
- 5.4 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges and agrees that the College will issue the notifications provided for in College Bylaw 10.05.

D) Effect of resignation

- 5.5 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges and agrees that should she resign her registration with the College prior to completion of each and every requirement in paragraphs 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, and 4.7 above she will be required to complete all outstanding requirements prior to being reinstated as a registrant of the College. Dr. Geddo Pok further acknowledges and agrees that her obligation to complete the requirements in this proposal prior to reinstatement is in addition to any limits or requirements that may be imposed by the College's Registration Committee in accordance with the *HPA* and/or the College Bylaws.

E) Effect of order made based upon this proposal

- 5.6 Dr. Geddo Pok acknowledges that any order made by the Committee based upon this proposal constitutes "past action" for the purposes of section 39.2 of the *HPA*.

F) Receipt of legal advice

5.7 Dr. Geddo Pok confirms that she has received legal advice before agreeing to all of the facts, admissions, consents, indemnities and other terms and conditions herein, or has freely elected not to do so.

Having read, understood, and agreed to each and every term above, this proposal is respectfully submitted to the Committee by:

Dr. Deanna Geddo Pok

Date

Signature of Dr. Geddo Pok witnessed on the above date by:

Witness name and signature