



# SUMMARIZED DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE DECISIONS

## ***COCOO v. Shannon Frizzell***

The Member admitted that she engaged in professional misconduct in that she had knowledge of, and was complicit in, providing incentives (shoes) to patients who purchased orthotics from the clinic. She also acknowledged that she failed to disclose the complimentary shoes on the clinic invoice, which was misleading. As well, the Member acknowledged that she failed to offer follow-up to patients she prescribed orthotics, after they were dispensed by another chiropodist. Finally, the Member admitted that the College was unable to conduct an effective documentary review of her prescriptions because of the deficiencies in her record keeping.

Based on the Member's admissions, the Panel found that the Member:

- failed to meet or contravened the College's standards,
- practised the profession in a conflict of interest,
- provided treatment to a patient when she knew, or ought to have known, that the provision of treatment was ineffective, unnecessary or deleterious to the patient or was inappropriate to meet the needs of the patient,
- failed to keep records,
- signed or issues a document that contained a false or misleading statement,
- submitted an account or charge for services that the registrant knew was false or misleading,
- charged a fee that was excessive in relation to the services or devices charged for,
- contravened the *Chiropody Act* and its regulations, and
- engaged in conduct that was disgraceful, dishonourable and unprofessional.

The College and the Member presented the Panel with a Joint Submission on Penalty requesting that the Panel make an order that included the following:

- oral reprimand

The Panel accepted the Joint Submission on Penalty, concluding that the proposed penalty was reasonable and in the public interest because the Member had signed an undertaking to permanently resign from the College and to never reapply.

The Member was also ordered to pay \$15,000 in costs to the College.



***COCOO v. Erwin Mendoza***

The Member admitted that he engaged in professional misconduct in that he did not perform and/or document in his patient records an adequate assessment for the prescription of orthotics in accordance with the College's standards. The Member also admitted that he failed to maintain patient records in that he signed, issued, and submitted documents that were false and misleading in order to support a benefit claim for orthotics. Finally, the Member admitted that he was aware of the clinic's practice of providing incentives (discounted shoes) to patients with the purchase of orthotics, and that his records did not disclose to insurance providers that patients were receiving discounted shoes with their orthotics.

Based on the Member's admissions, the Panel found that the Member:

- failed to meet or contravened the College's standards,
- practised the profession in a conflict of interest,
- failed to keep records,
- signed or issues a document that contained a false or misleading statement,
- submitted an account or charge for services that the registrant knew was false or misleading,
- charged a fee that was excessive in relation to the services or devices charged for,
- contravened the Chiropody Act and its regulations, and
- engaged in conduct that was disgraceful, dishonourable and unprofessional.

The College and the Member presented the Panel with a Joint Submission on Penalty requesting that the Panel make an order that included the following:

- Oral reprimand
- 8-month suspension (2 remitted for completed courses)
- Restricted from imaging, casting, prescribing, constructing, fitting, dispensing or ordering the fabrication of orthotics for 15 months from the date his suspension ends
- Supervision of practice upon return to work.

The Panel accepted the Joint Submission on Penalty, concluding that the proposed penalty was reasonable and in the public interest.

The Member was ordered to pay \$6,000 in costs to the College.

[Discipline decisions can be found on the College's website](#)