

**IN THE MATTER OF**  
***The Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996 c. 180***

Between

BRITISH COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF  
ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS (the "BCCOHP")

And

Dr. ALI SAFAEI

**CITATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

TO: Dr. Ali Safaei

**TAKE NOTICE** that a Panel of the BCCOHP's Discipline Committee (the "**Panel**") will conduct a hearing (the "**Hearing**") under s. 38 of the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996 c. 183 (the "**Act**") and the Bylaws of the College (the "**Bylaws**") to inquire into your conduct and competence as a dentist as described in the allegations set out below.

On December 22, 2024, the BCCOHP received a complaint from [REDACTED] on behalf of her father, [REDACTED] (the "**Complainant**") regarding your conduct and competence in the provision of dental services (the "**Complaint**"). Pursuant to section 33(1) of the Act, the Inquiry Committee investigated of the Complaint (the "**Investigation**").

**THE ALLEGATIONS** concerning your conduct and competence arising from the Complaint and the Investigation are as follows:

1. At all times material to the events and matters to be considered at the Hearing, you were a full dentist registrant of the BCCOHP and practicing as a general practitioner.
2. [REDACTED] has been a patient of yours since 2008. [REDACTED] intake document, including reference to a medical history of high blood pressure, is undated and unsigned.
3. On or about March 15, 2022, you recorded recommendations and associated fees for implants for [REDACTED] at sites 1.6, 1.5, 1.4, 2.6, 2.5, 2.4, 3.5, 3.4, 4.6, 4.5, and 4.4 (the "**March 2022 Recommendations**").

4. On April 21, 2022, your office reception transmitted a "Medical Clearance for Dental Treatment" form via facsimile to [REDACTED] physician, [REDACTED].
5. On April 28, 2022, your reception phoned [REDACTED] office, at which time it was confirmed that the medical clearance form had been received but had not yet been completed.
6. On or about May 12, 2022, [REDACTED] attended your office for maxillary implant surgery (the "**May 2022 Appointment**"). You had originally planned to install eight implants, four each on the upper left and right.
7. Prior to and as of the May 2022 Appointment, you were aware that [REDACTED] had:
  - (a) high blood pressure and cholesterol.
  - (b) Type 2 diabetes.
  - (c) undergone bypass surgery in December 2020.
8. During the May 2022 Appointment, you were aware that you had not received medical clearance from [REDACTED] for the surgery.
9. During the May 2022 Appointment, you decided to limit surgery to the upper left and place only four implants, with two requiring an indirect sinus lift and bone graft.
10. During the May 2022 Appointment you:
  - (a) took your first and only CBCT scan of [REDACTED].
  - (b) proceeded with the implant surgery in the absence of medical clearance from [REDACTED].
  - (c) did not take or monitor [REDACTED] blood pressure or blood sugar, despite being aware of his medical history including diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and the presence of a cardiac stent.
  - (d) provided pain medications and antibiotics to [REDACTED], including Dexamethasone.
11. Further to the March 2022 Recommendations, you did not document or detail a treatment plan for sinus lifts or bone grafts with membranes in [REDACTED] records.

12. Further to the May 2022 Appointment, you did not document or detail the following in [REDACTED] records:
  - (a) whether [REDACTED] consented to the use of bone grafting, membrane material or sinus lift procedures.
  - (b) [REDACTED] blood pressure or HbA1c status.
13. Further to the May 2022 Appointment, you did not document bone grafting information in the clinical entry, including material used or material tracking information.
14. Further to the May 2022 Appointment, the consent form dated May 12, 2022 does not include any information regarding bone grafts, membranes or sinus lift procedures, nor does it outline the associated risks or complications.
15. Further to the May 2022 Appointment, you did not explain to [REDACTED] the risks associated with implant surgery in connection with [REDACTED] blood pressure and HbA1c levels, including, in particular, before:
  - (a) obtaining consent from [REDACTED] to proceed with the treatment, and
  - (b) performing that treatment.
16. You provided Dexamethasone to [REDACTED] when you were aware, or should have been aware, that Dexamethasone can pose risks for individuals with Type 2 diabetes.
17. You did not conduct comprehensive diagnostic imaging of [REDACTED] teeth and mouth as part of [REDACTED] treatment planning until the May 2022 Appointment, including, in particular, before:
  - (a) obtaining consent from [REDACTED] to proceed with the treatment, and
  - (b) performing that treatment.
18. Further, you created a document noting "Description of Treatment" that is dated September 21, 2024, more than two years subsequent the May 2022 Appointment, rather than ensuring a proper treatment plan was adequately recorded prior to treatment.
19. The conduct described in paragraphs 15 and 17 constitutes a breach of:
  - (a) principle 7 of the BCCOHP's Code of Ethics (for Dentists, Dental Therapists and Certified Dental Assistants) (the "Code"),

- (b) item 7 of the Patient-Centered Care and the Business of Dentistry standards (the “**Patient-Centered Care Standards**”),
  - (c) standard 1 of the Standards of Practice (for Dentists, Dental Therapists and Certified Dental Assistants) (the “**Practice Standards**”),
  - (d) sections 5(1) and 6 of the *Health Care (Consent) and Care Facility (Admission) Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 181, and
20. The conduct described in paragraphs 2, 11, 12 and 18 constitutes a breach of the Dental Record Keeping Guidelines.
21. The conduct described in paragraphs 10, 14, 15, 16 and 17 constitutes a breach of:
- (a) principle 4 of the Code,
  - (b) standards 1, 3, 4 and 5 of the Practice Standards, and
  - (c) item 5 of the Patient-Centred Care Standards.
22. In addition to being breaches of the legislation as identified in paragraphs 19 to 21, the conduct described in paragraphs 2, 10 to 12 and 14 to 18 constitutes breaches of Part 15.01 of the Bylaws and constitutes unprofessional conduct or professional misconduct and incompetent practice of dentistry.

**BE ADVISED that the Hearing will take place virtually starting at 9:30 a.m. on March 23, 2026.**

You must provide the BCCOHP with notice of the evidence you intend to introduce at the Hearing at least 14 days before the Hearing date. That notice includes:

- (a) a list of the documents you intend to rely on, as well as, an opportunity to inspect those documents prior to the Hearing date,
- (b) for expert testimony,
  - (i) the name and qualifications of the expert, and
  - (ii) a copy of any report written by the expert in respect of this matter, or
  - (iii) if the expert did not prepare a report, a written summary of what the expert will say at the Hearing, and
- (c) for testimony by a witness who is not an expert, the witness’ name and an outline of his or her anticipated evidence.

The BCCOHP must provide you with the same notice of the evidence it intends to introduce at the Hearing.

You are entitled to attend the Hearing and may be represented by legal counsel at your expense. A court reporter will be in attendance at the Hearing to transcribe the proceedings. You will have the opportunity to hear the evidence against you and call evidence on your behalf, present argument, and cross examine any witnesses called by counsel for the BCCOHP.

The Hearing is your sole opportunity to present evidence before the Panel and call witnesses in connection with the matter. **If you do not attend, the Panel may, upon proof of service of this Citation and Notice of Hearing, proceed with the Hearing in your absence, without further notice to you.** The Panel may take any actions that it is authorized to take under the Act.

The Hearing will be public unless you or a witness requests the Hearing to be held in private, and the Panel grants that request.

After completion of the Hearing, the Panel may, under s. 39 of the Act, dismiss the matter or determine that you:

- (a) have incompetently practiced dentistry;
- (b) have committed professional misconduct or unprofessional conduct;
- (c) have not complied with a standard, limit, or condition imposed under the Act; and/or
- (d) have not complied with the Act, a regulation, or a bylaw.

Copies of the Act, and the Bylaws are enclosed with this Citation, and you are particularly referred to sections 37-39 of the Act and Part 13 and schedule I of the Bylaws.

Dated at Vancouver, this 10th day of December, 2025.



Karen Mok, Deputy Registrar,  
British Columbia College of Oral Health  
Professionals