

Discipline Decision

Discipline Decision: Kaur Sidhu

Pursuant to a Notice of Hearing (the "Notice") dated the 26th day of September, 2014, it was alleged that Mr. Kaur Singh Sidhu, being a pharmacist under the provisions of *The Pharmaceutical Act, C.C.S.M. c. P60* ("The Act") and a registrant of the College of Pharmacists of Manitoba (the "College"), was guilty of professional misconduct, conduct unbecoming a member, or had displayed a lack of skill or judgment in the practice of pharmacy or operation of a pharmacy, or any of the above, as described in section 54 of *The Act*.

On Tuesday, July 11, 2017, the Discipline Committee convened to address the charges.

Mr. Jeff Hirsch appeared as counsel on behalf of the Complaints Committee. Mr. Ken Muys appeared with and as legal counsel for Mr. Sidhu. Mr. Sidhu entered a guilty plea to the following charges in that:

1. on or about May 15, 2014, Mr. Sidhu dispensed a prescription for Levodopa / Carbidopa 250/25mg instead of Levodopa / Carbidopa 100/25mg for patient XX without confirming the accuracy of the prescription in accordance with section 83 of The Pharmaceutical Regulation, Man Reg 185/2013 (the "Regulation"), and Statement VII of the College Code of Ethics (the "Code");
2. in or about June 2014, upon being informed by patient XX that he had been dispensed and had ingested the wrong medication and upon dispensing the correct medication, Mr. Sidhu failed to provide proper patient medication counseling to patient XX in accordance with section 56(1)1 of The Regulation;

After having had the opportunity to review the authorities provided to the Discipline Committee and having considered the submissions of legal counsel, the Discipline Committee was of the view that the sanctions contained in the submitted joint disposition should serve to satisfy that the public's interest is protected and the public's confidence is retained. As a result, and in accordance with sections 54, 55 and 56 of *The Act*, the Discipline Committee ordered that:

1. Mr. Sidhu pay a fine in the amount of \$750.00; and
2. Mr. Sidhu pay a contribution to the costs of the investigation and the prosecution in the amount of \$250.00.

In arriving at its decision, the Discipline Committee took into consideration that Mr. Sidhu:

1. implemented changes to his pharmacy practice to reduce the possibility of future medication errors of this type;
2. communicates with his staff on an ongoing basis regarding medication errors and near misses, both within their pharmacy and those discussed in the media; and
3. co-operated with the College throughout the investigation process.

Although the Committee found the fine and contribution to costs to be low, it was encouraged by the additional safety measures implemented and suggested the establishment of a true record of medication errors and near misses within Mr. Sidhu's practice and that the record be shared with the pharmacy staff.