



College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

Hearing Outcome

Published January 23, 2015

Registrant: Dr. Jangbir Bajwa

Hearing File Number: H13-03

Decision: CVBC Discipline Committee – January 23, 2015 (Decision)
Dr. Bajwa was self-represented

Findings: Dr. Jangbir Bajwa provided care to a 10 to 11 year old male canine from July 10, 2009 to August 16, 2009 (the “treatment period”) when the canine died.

Early laboratory test results suggested a diagnosis of diabetes mellitus (“diabetes”) or potential diabetes. While one of Dr. Bajwa’s first medical records noted a concern about diabetes, the Discipline Committee found that the seriousness of the situation and importance of treating such a condition promptly was either not communicated directly to the owner or was so poorly communicated that it was not understood. Dr. Bajwa’s failure to mention diabetes or, alternatively, humane euthanasia, in the medical record after July 10, 2009, as well as his subsequent failure to follow up with the owner shortly thereafter was consistent with Dr. Bajwa not understanding the “gravity of this diagnoses and the implications of not treating it.”

Similarly, Dr. Bajwa’s medical records do not document any discussion of the risks of using a corticosteroid in a patient with diabetes. In addition, the dosage of NSAID prescribed for the canine 4 days before he died was very high and underscored Dr. Bajwa’s failure to understand that he was treating a diabetic dog.

Considering the totality of the evidence, including expert testimony, the Discipline Committee found that while the canine in question was under Dr. Bajwa’s care during the treatment period, Dr. Bajwa failed to demonstrate the level of care, skill, and knowledge expected of a competent practitioner in the treatment of diabetes, contrary to section 31 of the Code of Ethics.

The Discipline Committee also found that during the treatment period Dr. Bajwa failed to demonstrate the level of care, skill, and knowledge expected of a competent practitioner in the use of NSAIDS and steroids, contrary to section 31 of the Code of Ethics.

Disposition: The Discipline Committee assessed the penalty to include: 8 hours of continuing education in the area of internal medicine, including 2 hours relating to diabetes diagnosis and treatment, and a course in client communications. The foregoing were to be completed in addition to any other required continuation. Costs were also assessed against Dr. Bajwa.