



## College of Veterinarians of British Columbia

### *Hearing Outcome*

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**Registrant:** Dr. Bhupinder Johar

**File Numbers:** 04-111, 05-035, 05-012, 04-029 (08-01 / H12-10)

**Decisions:** BCVMA Inquiry Committee [continuing under the Veterinarians Act, S.B.C. 2010, c. 15] (August 2012); CVBC Discipline Committee (December 2013)

**Findings:** File 04-111: The three charges that proceeded to hearing were not proven.

File 05-035: Dr. Johar performed a caesarean section on a dog. The following day, the puppies were not doing well and the owner took the puppies to a second veterinarian facility. Dr. Johar refused to release the dog's complete medical record to the second veterinarian facility but did provide a one page written summary. Dr. Johar told the dog's owner that the second veterinary facility was making the puppies die because they did not want Dr. Johar in the neighborhood. Dr. Johar further stated that the second veterinary facility was prejudiced and if the owner brought back the puppies to him they would survive. Dr. Johar spoke on the telephone with a veterinarian from the second facility and said, "If you give me trouble I will give you trouble ten times over. I have so many complaints against [another veterinarian]." The Inquiry Committee found that the volumes of medicine administered were missing in Dr. Johar's medical record. The Inquiry Committee found the four charges that proceeded to hearing were proven, that is, Dr. Johar:

1. failed to maintain current, complete and accurate medical records;
2. failed to release information in the medical record in a timely manner;
3. made inappropriate comments about the actions of a fellow member of the BCVMA; and
4. acted in an unprofessional manner towards a fellow member of the BCVMA by making threatening comments.

File 05-012: A member of the public arranged for her regular veterinarian to fax Dr. Johar an authorization to sell her the subcutaneous supplies she required to treat her cat at home. In meeting with the member of the public, Dr. Johar made inappropriate comments which were critical about the treatment and recommendations of a fellow member of the BCVMA. Dr. Johar also gave inappropriate advice by recommending that needles be re-used.

File 04-029: Dr. Johar failed to exercise a reasonable degree of care, skill and knowledge with

respect to the diagnosis of symptoms concerning a 6-year old male Dachshund, including: a failure to have adequate knowledge of breed specific diseases and of degenerative disc disease; inappropriate prescription of an anti-bacterial / anti-protozoal agent; and lack of knowledge of basic principles of antibiotic and anti-bacterial treatment.

**Disposition:** The Discipline Committee reprimanded Dr. Johar and imposed a fine of \$5,000. The panel also required that prior to December 31, 2014, Dr. Johar must take further education or training with respect to: record keeping; professional ethics; diagnosis of degenerative spine diseases; proper use of antibiotics; and pain management. The panel designated the Deputy Registrar of the CVBC to determine whether the educational requirements are satisfied. If Dr. Johar has completed satisfactory courses in the above-noted subject areas since January 1, 2008, those courses would qualify towards satisfying the educational requirements. If Dr. Johar fails to satisfy the educational requirements his registration will be suspended or restricted until the requirements are met. The panel directed that on or before December 31, 2014, the CVBC must conduct a practice inspection of Dr. Johar's clinic at his expense.

The net costs owing by Dr. Johar to the CVBC was determined to be \$63,559.79.

Dr. Johar has appealed the Inquiry Committee and Discipline Committee Decisions with the Supreme Court of British Columbia. He has applied for a Stay of the Penalty with the Discipline Committee pending a court ruling on his appeal. On April 9, 2014 the Discipline Committee Panel ordered a stay of the written reprimand, the \$5,000 fine and the costs component of the decision on penalty and costs pending the hearing of Dr. Johar's appeal. The educational and practice inspection aspects of the penalty were not stayed. Dr. Johar's appeal with the Supreme Court of British Columbia is pending.