

College of COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS OF BC

**Type:** Extraordinary Action (IC)

Name: Sung Hyun La, R.Ac.

Location: Surrey, BC

## Date of Action: February 10, 2025

**Nature of Action:** Pursuant to section 35(1)(a) of the *Health Professions Act* (the "Act"), a panel of the Inquiry Committee made an interim order to impose limits and conditions on Sung Hyun La's registration with the College of Complementary Health Professionals of BC to protect the public during an investigation.

The limits and conditions on the Registrant's practice of Traditional Chinese Medicine are that he:

- may not treat female patients;
- must immediately post a statement that he is prohibited from treating female patients in a prominent position on all online booking pages associated with his practice;
- must post a notice in any treatment room where he practices in a prominent place stating that he is prohibited from treating female patients;
- must, by 6:00 p.m. every Friday, provide the College with, or electronic access to, his calendar, including the name and contact information for each patient he treated in the preceding week; and
- will be subject to random on-site audits of his practice by a College-appointed inspector, with the frequency and timing of the random on-site audits to be at the sole discretion of the College. Without limiting the foregoing, an inspector may inspect any patient booking process (whether that occurs physically, by telephone, or otherwise electronically) and any file or record of any patient treated by him.

**Reasons:** The February 10, 2025 order was made following the receipt of a complaint from a female patient of the Registrant. In relation to this complaint, the Inquiry Committee panel found that there was a *prima facie* case of the allegations that, during the provision of treatment to the patient, the Registrant engaged in sexual misconduct and conducted himself in a manner that demonstrated a lack of professional judgment and respect for boundaries.

The Inquiry Committee panel considered the allegations serious and found that there are some factors that render the alleged conduct likely to recur. Therefore, the panel determined that the public must be protected by an interim order during the investigation, pending any disciplinary hearing.

The panel considered what interim measures should be sufficient and proportionate in this case. Having weighed the different options and the circumstances of this case and having considered the impact on the Registrant, the Inquiry Committee panel concluded that the above-described limits and conditions are proportionate and sufficient to protect the public during the investigation or pending a discipline hearing.

**Important Note:** Limits, conditions and suspensions ordered by the Inquiry Committee under section 35(1) of the Act are made to protect the public during an investigation or



pending a hearing of the Discipline Committee. Measures taken under section 35(1) of the Act pertain to allegations which are and remain unproven unless admitted by a registrant or determined by the Discipline Committee.