



Type: Disciplinary Order

Name: Mario Luis Ibarra, Former R.Ac.

Location: Surrey, BC.

Date of Action: June 26, 2025

Nature of Action: A section 39(2) order by consent under section 37.1 of the Health Professions Act, RSBC 1996, c 183. Following the issuance of a citation giving notice of a formal discipline hearing, the respondent, Mario Luis Ibarra, made a proposal to enter into a consent order with the Inquiry Committee. Mr. Ibarra ultimately consented to an order by the Inquiry Committee that:

- Due to Mr. Ibarra's professional misconduct, he is not eligible to apply for reinstatement of registration with CCHPBC until July 1, 2055. Mr. Ibarra's registration had already been terminated at the time of this order, following his failure to renew his registration on March 31, 2024.
- If Mr. Ibarra applies for reinstatement with CCHPBC on or after July 1, 2055, it will be a condition of his eligibility that he successfully complete such courses on ethics and respecting boundaries as the Registrar of CCHPBC or the Registration Committee, as the case may be, shall require at the time of his application.
- Mr. Ibarra shall pay costs in the amount of \$3,000 to CCHPBC with respect to its investigation and discipline of Mr. Ibarra in this matter.

Given this resolution, a formal discipline hearing will not proceed.

Read Mr. Ibarra's proposal ([PDF](#))

Read the Consent Order and Reasons ([PDF](#))

Reasons: Mr. Ibarra made admissions in relation to his conduct towards two patients, who will be referred to below using generic initials, to avoid identifying them.



1. Between October 1, 2016, and October 17, 2016, while providing acupuncture services to A.A., Mr. Ibarra:
 - a. hugged A.A., and
 - b. sexually assaulted A.A. by:
 - i. massaging the front of her breasts, including her nipples, for several minutes, and
 - ii. lying on top of A.A. for two minutes while she was draped with a sheet, while Mr. Ibarra moved his hips inappropriately and developed an erection.
2. Between November 20, 2015, and October 15, 2016, while providing acupuncture services to B.B., Mr. Ibarra:
 - a. entered the treatment room before B.B. had an opportunity to undress and establish herself under the draping, and
 - b. sexually assaulted B.B. by:
 - i. massaging her breasts in a manner that was not consistent with therapeutic intent, and
 - ii. sliding a finger inside B.B.'s vagina.
3. On June 22, 2023, Mr. Ibarra was charged with two counts of sexual assault contrary to section 271 of the Criminal Code.
4. On November 5, 2024, Mr. Ibarra pleaded guilty in British Columbia Provincial Court to two counts of sexual assault contrary to section 271 of the Criminal Code.
5. On February 13, 2025, inter alia, Mr. Ibarra was sentenced to a conditional sentence of two years less one day, which included the condition that he not engage in the practice of acupuncture or any other health care or other occupation which requires him to touch any other person during the course of the occupation.
6. Mr. Ibarra's criminal convictions described in paragraph 4 relate to his provision of acupuncture services to A.A. and B.B.
7. Mr. Ibarra's conduct as described in paragraphs 1 and 2 amounts to professional misconduct.



On March 31, 2024, Mr. Ibarra failed to renew his registration with the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners of British Columbia, which was amalgamated into the CCHPBC on June 28, 2024.

The Inquiry Committee noted that if Mr. Ibarra applies for reinstatement on or after July 1, 2025, he will not have an automatic right to registration. Instead, his application will be addressed by the Registration Committee of CCHPBC (or any successor entity to the College) in accordance with section 20 of the Health Professions Act (or any successor legislation) and the Bylaws of CCHPBC, including as they may be amended. In the event of a future application for registration, Mr. Ibarra will be required to meet all legislative and bylaw requirements relating to registration, including those relating to good character, risks to public safety, and the public interest.

The Inquiry Committee considered Mr. Ibarra's admitted conduct to be extremely serious. The Inquiry Committee is satisfied that the consent order in this matter appropriately reflects the seriousness of the admitted conduct and will protect patient safety as Mr. Ibarra is no longer authorized to practice as an acupuncturist in B.C.

