Alberta Dental Association and College Hearing Tribunal Decision

December 17, 2021

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BYLAW 19(7) OF THE ALBERTA DENTAL ASSOCIATION AND COLLEGE

On December 17, 2021, a Hearing Tribunal of the Alberta Dental Association and College found Dr. Nimet Jinnah guilty of unprofessional conduct and she was sanctioned. A Hearing Tribunal is an independent group of decision makers comprised of two dentists registered in Alberta and two members of the public appointed by the Government of Alberta.

Dr. Jinnah admitted that the fees she charged for professional services were her responsibility and that she was responsible for ensuring information regarding fees, interest and billing is provided to patients in a clear and transparent manner, which did not occur in this case. Dr. Jinnah also admitted that she failed to obtain the patient's informed consent for the full cost of the treatment. Dr. Jinnah further admitted that this conduct constituted unprofessional conduct. The Hearing Tribunal found the conduct was proven.

ORDERS OF HEARING TRIBUNAL

The Hearing Tribunal reviewed Dr. Jinnah's admissions and agreed the allegations were proven and constituted unprofessional conduct under the *Health Professions Act*. The Hearing Tribunal accepted a Joint Submission on Penalty from the parties and issued the following orders on sanction:

- 1. Dr. Jinnah will receive a reprimand and the written decision of the Hearing Tribunal shall serve as that reprimand;
- 2. Dr. Jinnah shall pay a fine of \$2,500;
- 3. Dr. Jinnah shall complete an approved course on patient communication by January 31, 2022, at her own cost and which will not count towards her continuing education credits; and
- 4. Dr. Jinnah will pay half of the costs of the investigation and hearing to a maximum of \$7,000.