

Public Notification

Dr. Jordan Atkinson, ND – License Number 00549

1. Nature of Action

On November 18, 2022, Dr. Jordan Atkinson, ND, agreed to a consent order following an investigation by the College of Naturopathic Physicians of British Columbia (the “College”).

The College’s Inquiry Committee investigated a complaint made by Dr. Atkinson’s former patient (the “Patient”) on May 22, 2018. The complaint concerned the Patient’s treatment by Dr. Atkinson between March 13 and November 20, 2017.

Following the investigation, the Inquiry Committee had concerns that Dr. Atkinson had not met the standard of practice required of a naturopathic physician in BC, and disposed of the investigation pursuant to section 33(6) and 36(1) of the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 183 (the “Act”). The Inquiry Committee was of the view that the conduct at issue in this investigation met the definition of a “serious matter” as defined in section 26 of the Act, and therefore motioned that this public notification be published on the College website pursuant to section 39.3(b) and 39.3(2) of the Act.

2. Public Notification Approval Date

November 18, 2022

3. Name of Registrant and Locations of Practice

Dr. Jordan Atkinson, ND.
Vancouver, BC

4. Terms of Consent Order

- a. Dr. Atkinson admitted to the nature of the complaint, took appropriate educational courses, undertakes not to repeat the conduct to which the matter relates, and consents to a reprimand.

- b. Dr. Atkinson consented to a 16-day suspension of his practice of naturopathic medicine, to be served on 16 consecutive days, within six months of the effective date of the consent order.
- c. Dr. Atkinson consented to a fine of \$5,000, to be paid to the College within six months of the effective date of the consent order.
- d. Dr. Atkinson undertakes to make reasonable efforts when a language barrier exists to ensure that his patients understand the treatment plan and provide informed consent.

5. Reasons

The Patient was treated by Dr. Atkinson for hemorrhoids during several appointments over the span of four months. The Patient was later diagnosed with a rectal tumor by another medical practitioner.

The Patient complained that Dr. Atkinson failed to detect the tumor because he did not perform a competent examination. Dr. Atkinson disputes this. However, Dr. Atkinson admits that he failed to fully document his findings in the Patient's medical records.

The Inquiry Committee is therefore of the view that Dr. Atkinson's treatment of the patient fell short of the standard of practice required of a naturopathic doctor in these circumstances. The College is satisfied that the terms of this consent order will protect the public by raising public notice of this serious matter, and by reinforcing the standards of practice that apply to naturopathic doctors.