

Discipline Case Summary

Cara Maher, Licence # 1714

PCC File 2018.1

Accusation of Failure to Maintain an Adequate Client Record

A written complaint numbered 2018.1 was initiated against the Member. This complaint was thoroughly investigated and the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) concluded that the specific allegations described in the written complaint did not constitute either professional incompetence or professional misconduct as these terms are defined in section 22 and 23 of *The Physical Therapists Act, 1998*. Therefore, the PCC recommended that no further action be taken with respect to the written complaint because no further action was warranted in that regard. However, during the course of the investigation, the PCC became concerned about the adequacy of the record maintained by the Member.

In the investigation it was identified that the Member failed to write an adequate record of her interactions with the client named in the written complaint 2018.1. The Member's chart notes for the file did not meet SCPT Practice Guideline #5 because information such as consent, medical history, subjective concerns, objective findings, rationale for ordering a wheelchair and planned follow up were not properly documented. The PCC concluded that the Member's documentation in the provided file constitutes professional misconduct.

The PCC, as the Complainant, and the Member were prepared to resolve the matter without a hearing and the complaint was resolved by a mutual consent agreement. The Member acknowledged that her documentation in the file reviewed failed to comply with section 9 of the SCPT Code of ethics, in contravention of section 20 of the SCPT Regulatory Bylaws, and therefore constitutes professional misconduct as defined in *The Physical Therapists Act, 1998 (the Act)*, and accepted a formal reprimand regarding the contravention. The Member agreed to: review the SCPT Code of Ethics and Practice Guideline #5, complete 10 self-chart audits utilizing the SCPT's standardize chart audit tool and provide a written declaration that she has completed the actions described, to the Chair of the PCC.

On behalf of the Committee Members:

Pat Beharry
Lee Hall
Kim Woycik
Andrea Wollbaum