

## Discipline Case Summary

Susara P. (Ina) van der Spuy, Licence # 1892

A complaint was made against the Member dated February 28, 2022. The complaint provided a description of an extensive list of occurrences demonstrating errors in judgement and performance of assessment and treatment procedures which did not improve substantially with added supports and supervision in a clinical setting.

The complaint was thoroughly investigated by the Professional Conduct committee (PCC). The Member acknowledged that she had indeed performed or failed to perform the procedures that were typically contraindicated or required for safely delivering care in the acute care setting where she was employed. Examples: chart review missed non-weight bearing orders for a patient instructed to attempt weightbearing; difficulty with donning and doffing personal protective equipment; performing abdominal thrusts as part of assisted cough technique when she positioned her hand over the xiphisternum before being coached to reposition; poor suctioning technique; and a lack of self-awareness and professional reflection to address these and other difficulties with study and consultation with colleagues.

The PCC concluded that the member's actions would likely constitute professional misconduct and/or professional incompetence as these terms are defined in sections 22 and 23 of *the Physical Therapists Act 1998*.

The Member has provided an undertaking to the PCC as detailed in a Resolution Agreement between them pursuant to which her licence shall be suspended until such time as she successfully completes a Bridging to Canadian Physical Therapy program from the University of Alberta and demonstrates improvement in the areas of clinical and professional practice during 3 months of supervised physical therapy practice, as confirmed by a supervisor acceptable to the Registrar.

On behalf of the Professional Conduct committee members:

Jennifer Aberhart (Chair), Moira Stoll, Amanda Paterson, Emad Abdelmasseh, Bonnie Yake  
Christopher Sarsons, Public Representative