

**General  
Chiropractic  
Council**



## **Fitness to Practise Report 2014**

## 2014 FtP Case Summaries Before the PCC

Name, registration number and date of PCC decision	Source of Complaint	Summary of Allegations Found Proved	Outcome
Jan Zbigniew Blankenstein 00254	Patient	During the course of treating Patient A, Mr Blankenstein: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- kissed Patient A on the shoulder;</li> <li>- without her consent;</li> <li>- and his actions were sexually motivated.</li> </ul>	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.  Sanction: Removal from register.
Mark Morrison 03150	Patient	Mr Morrison had been convicted for Criminal offences before Worcester Crown Court in December 2013 of 25 counts of voyeurism, 5 counts of sexual assault on a female and 2 counts of doing an act tending and intended to pervert the course of justice.	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.  Sanction: Removal from register
Hooman Zahedi 01998	Patient	Allegations of unacceptable professional conduct and of professional incompetence were both found proved in relation to allegations against Mr Zahedi relating to two Patients: <p><b>Unacceptable Professional Conduct:</b></p> <p><u>Patient A:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Failed to record sufficient clinical justification for x-rays taken of Patient A;</li> <li>-Provided treatment to Patient A on around 50 occasions during the period between Nov 2004-May 2005 and in doing so:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) acted contrary to the best interests of Patient A</li> <li>(b) provided treatments at a frequency which was not which was not clinically justified</li> </ul> </li> <li>-During Patient A's appointment with him, he unduly attempted to influence Patient A to commence treatment.</li> </ul> <p><u>Patient B:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failed to record sufficient clinical justification for x-rays taken of Patient B;</li> <li>During Patient B's appointment with him, he unduly attempted to influence Patient B to commence treatment;</li> <li>During the period he treated Patient B, he failed to obtain her informed consent to treatment and inform her of his diagnosis;</li> <li>- On being told Patient B's symptoms, he failed to refer her on for immediate medical assessment</li> </ul> <p><b>Professional Incompetence:</b></p> <p><u>Patient A:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failed to formulate a working diagnosis</li> </ul>	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.  Sanction: Removal from register.

		<p>or clinical impression which properly took account of the x-rays taken;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failed to select an appropriate treatment for Patient A in manipulating Patient A's neck when it was not appropriate to do so;</li> <li>- Failed to maintain adequate records;</li> <li>- Failed to adequately record objective and subjective findings;</li> <li>- Between Nov 2004 – March 2005 failed to keep adequate records of reviews;</li> <li>- During the period you treated Patient A you failed to undertake adequate reviews.</li> </ul> <p><u>Patient B:</u> Failed to formulate a working diagnosis or clinical impression which properly took account of the x-rays taken; Failed to retake a radiograph which was not of sufficient quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failed to maintain adequate records in that he failed to adequately record objective and subjective findings;</li> </ul> <p>During the period he treated Patient B he failed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. inform her of the outcome of his assessment of her;</li> <li>b. review his plan of care despite Patient B reporting that the treatment caused pain, she felt paralysis and had difficulties with her speech, opening her eyes, jaw numbness and facial parathesia;</li> <li>c. identify that Patient B's health needs would be better met through the care offered by another healthcare professional;</li> </ol> <p>During the period when he treated Patient B he failed to select the appropriate treatment for Patient B.</p>	
Richard James Taylor 03790	Self referral	<p>On 31st January 2013, Mr Taylor completed the GCC registration application form which stated that he would notify his conviction to the GCC within 7 days;</p> <p>On 14 June 2013, he was convicted at the Central and South West Staffordshire Magistrate's Court of driving a motor vehicle after consuming so much alcohol that it exceeded the prescribed limit;</p> <p>Mr Taylor failed to notify the GCC of his conviction within 7 days;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He then completed an online form for retention on the register of Chiropractors on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2013;</li> <li>- In that form he adopted the following statement: <i>"I confirm that I have not been convicted of a criminal offence, or</i></li> </ul>	<p>Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.</p> <p>Sanction: Suspension Order (1 month).</p>

		<i>cautioned, in any country, since my last application for registration or retention</i> "; That statement was untrue and dishonest.	
David Brown 02308	Patient	Mr Brown failed to: -Take an adequate medical history; -Perform appropriate examinations; -Achieve an appropriate diagnostic series when taking x-rays; - Have sufficient evidence for the specific justifications for x-ray; -Maintain accurate and/or adequate clinical records	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.  Sanction: Conditions of Practice Order
Jonathan Clarke 02562	Patient	Mr Clarke  -did not plan and /or record a plan to review the effectiveness of his plan of care until Patient A had attended in the region of 18 treatment sessions. -The clinic complaints procedure which he provided to the GCC under cover of letter of 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2011 had the potential to intimidate a complainant and/or deter a complainant from making a complaint. - The consent from which Patient A signed on around 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2011 included words " I also intend this consent form for any future conditions(s) for which I seek treatment at the practice" which were inappropriate in that Patient A could not give informed consent to treatment of future conditions by signing the form.	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.  Sanction: Admonishment
Tracy Harley 02658	Self referral	Ms Harley had a website, <a href="http://www.bodywellgroup.co.uk">www.bodywellgroup.co.uk</a> which she caused or permitted to contain in relation to her practice, text suggesting that chiropractic treatment was, or could be efficacious for the treatment of: -infertility -the sleeping patterns of children with autism - asthma, ear infections.  The text was not factual, not verifiable, and/or misleading.  Ms Harley's conduct had the potential to: - abuse the trust of members of the public; - exploit the lack of experience or knowledge of members of the public about health or chiropractic matters; and/or - bring the profession into disrepute.	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.  Sanction: Admonishment
Elizabeth Jane Laverick 00259	Patient	Between 9 and 19 March 2009 Patient A consulted Ms Laverick for chiropractic treatment in relation to symptoms which indicated a possibility that the Patient was	Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.

		<p>suffering from Cauda Equina Syndrome.</p> <p>Ms Laverick should have referred Patient A for urgent medical assessment but failed to do so.</p> <p>Ms Laverick's conduct was not in the best interest of Patient A and had the potential to cause harm to the Patient.</p>	<p>Sanction: Admonishment.</p>
Tzanos Tyranes 02963	Patient	<p>During a period from March to April 2012, he offered, or caused or permitted to be offered, a refund to Patient A and/or her husband as an inducement to withdraw a complaint made to the GCC by Patient A and /or her husband.</p>	<p>Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.</p> <p>Sanction: Admonishment</p>
Julian Robert Welch 00078	Patient complaint to GMC - forwarded to GCC.	<p>During a consultation with Patient A, Mr Welch made inappropriate comments, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- all female Irish patients he has "tend to be petite, slim and have lovely figures".</li> <li>- comments about her underwear being pretty and asking where he purchased it;</li> <li>- that his wife has asked him to buy underwear and he was looking for advice;</li> </ul> <p>His comments were inappropriate, impolite and failed to respect Patient A's privacy and dignity.</p> <p>Following the appointment he then commented to a male receptionist in Patient A's presence that he and Patient A had been discussing buying underwear, which was inappropriate.</p>	<p>Finding of Unacceptable Professional Conduct.</p> <p>Sanction: Admonishment</p>