



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

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MEDIA RELEASE – August 24, 2018

Unlicensed medical practitioner found in contempt of court orders to stop practising medicine

VANCOUVER, BC: The BC Supreme court has sentenced Zhuo Li (also known as Sabrina Li) to house arrest following a finding of contempt of two court orders that temporarily and permanently restrained her from providing any service that may be provided only by a registrant of the College.

The temporary injunction was issued in December 2016, when the College was granted permission to enter the premises of Ms. Li's home to conduct a search and to seize any items believed to be used in the unlicensed practice of medicine. A permanent injunction, largely to the same effect, was later issued in May 2017, by consent.

See also:

- [January 2017 public advisory and backgrounder](#)
- [May 2017 court order](#)

In August 2017 and after the initial court proceedings had concluded, a member of the public came forward to the College providing evidence that Ms. Li had performed eyelid surgery. The College subsequently investigated and determined that Ms. Li appeared to have performed the surgery, which amounts to the practice of medicine, between April 2, 2017 and July 3, 2017.

On Friday, May 4, 2018, the BC Supreme Court found it proven beyond a reasonable doubt that Ms. Li had, in fact, practised medicine between those dates and that she was accordingly in contempt of the two court orders.

In addition to the three-month house arrest, Ms. Li has been ordered to pay a fine in the amount of \$6,000, as well as special costs fixed at \$44,000.

Situations such as this serve to remind the public of the importance of seeing a regulated and licensed health professional. Anyone who sees an illegal practitioner puts themselves and their family at risk for bacterial and viral infections. There is no assurance that the practitioner is competent or qualified to provide treatment, or that the material and equipment used are safe. For more information on regulated health professionals, visit www.bchealthregulators.ca.

The College recommends that any person who is treated by an illegal practitioner consult with their family physician to review the work done and the materials used. To verify the credentials and to ensure a physician is registered with the College, members of the public are encouraged to visit the online physician directory on the College's website at www.cpsbc.ca.

With these actions, the College is confident that the public interest has been served.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons is the licensing and regulatory body for all physicians and surgeons in the province. Governed by provincial legislation, the College's role is to protect the public by establishing, monitoring and enforcing high standards of qualification and ethical practice across the province.

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Media inquiries:

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