



12. POLICIES AND COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

Member's Questions

1. Supervision policy-Where is this at? Is it ongoing?
2. The use of Doctor within our titles is a significant change; the public, our own members, and other professional bodies all have an expectation that responsible decisions have been made. Owing to the paucity of communication and transparency on the May 2021 Use of Title guidelines, it is unclear if determinations were well informed by research/best practices, within legislative requirements, and aligned with the long-term strategy of the College with respect to future stratification of levels of practice. We are asked to use the title responsibly, yet other than a brief summary of discussion within the official minutes, we have no idea how responsible Council has been with deliberations, or whether these guidelines fall short of an appropriate level of rigor and are absent a longer-term strategy. To better assure stakeholders that the use of Doctor title guidelines are appropriate and respectful to our practice, that they maintain respect to other disciplines and the public, and that employer may have confidence that operations need not be continually adjusted by future title changes, may we request Council speak to:
 - a. What deliberations did Council have on this issue, including how long the matter was under discussion, what empirical evidence and/or best practices were relied on, and were any sub-committee or independent reports or recommendations considered?
 - b. Will the CAA be sharing any of the evidence it may have considered with the members and with the public?
 - c. What is the College's long-term strategy with respect to additional stratification of practice, such as we see in neighboring jurisdictions where licensure is granted at the Registered Acupuncturist (R.Ac.), Registered Traditional Chinese Medicine Herbalist (R.TCM.H.), Registered Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioner (R.TCM.P.) and Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Dr.TCM) levels?

The Supervision policy, in addition to our registration policies, are currently being reviewed and developed.

The Doctor title was being discussed for the regulation before the current Council members were elected. The current Council was not privy to prior discussions, deliberations and/or legal advice that occurred in relation to the inclusion and content of the Use of Title section in the Regulations.

Currently, the Acupuncturist Profession Regulation permits anyone on the general register to use the Doctor title. An important factor that will prompt further discussion on this issue is Bill 46. One of the implications of this Bill is the use of titles section being removed from the Regulation and placed in a Standard of Practice. This will provide Council the opportunity to have extensive discussions and consider pertinent evidence regarding the criteria that should be developed for use of the title and to develop appropriate policies that ensure the Doctor title is used in a manner that reflects the responsibilities inherent with the title and our mandate to protect the public. Information will be shared with Registrants as appropriate.