



**GET THE
FACTS**

Acupuncture Regulations Series

HEARINGS



FACTS AT A GLANCE

Who determines if an acupuncturist is guilty of unprofessional conduct?

An independent Hearing Tribunal will carefully consider all evidence provided to make their decision.

What Role does the College Play in Hearings?

The College's role is to provide administrative support to the Hearing Tribunal.

What Does the Hearings Tribunal take into Consideration when Making a Decision?

The Hearing Tribunal considers evidence presented by both the acupuncturist and the complainant.

What is Unprofessional Conduct?

Unprofessional conduct is defined in the *Health Professions Act* (Section 1(1)).

A hearing takes place when a complaint investigation reveals that the conduct of an acupuncturist may rise to the level of unprofessional conduct.

TYPES OF HEARINGS

There are three types of hearings:

- Consent hearing - the acupuncturist agrees to the facts and the sanction.
- Partial consent hearing - the acupuncturist agrees on some, but not all, of the facts and/or sanctions.
- Contested hearing - the acupuncturist does not agree on the facts.

TRANSPARENCY

- The College posts all upcoming hearings on our website.
- Hearings are open to the public through pre-registration.
- Findings of unprofessional conduct that result in a decision from the Hearing Tribunal are published on the College's website once the appeal process has been completed.

If a practitioner has a question regarding hearings, they can refer to acupuncturealberta.ca or reach out to the Hearings Director at 780-466-7787 or hearingsdirector@acupuncturealberta.