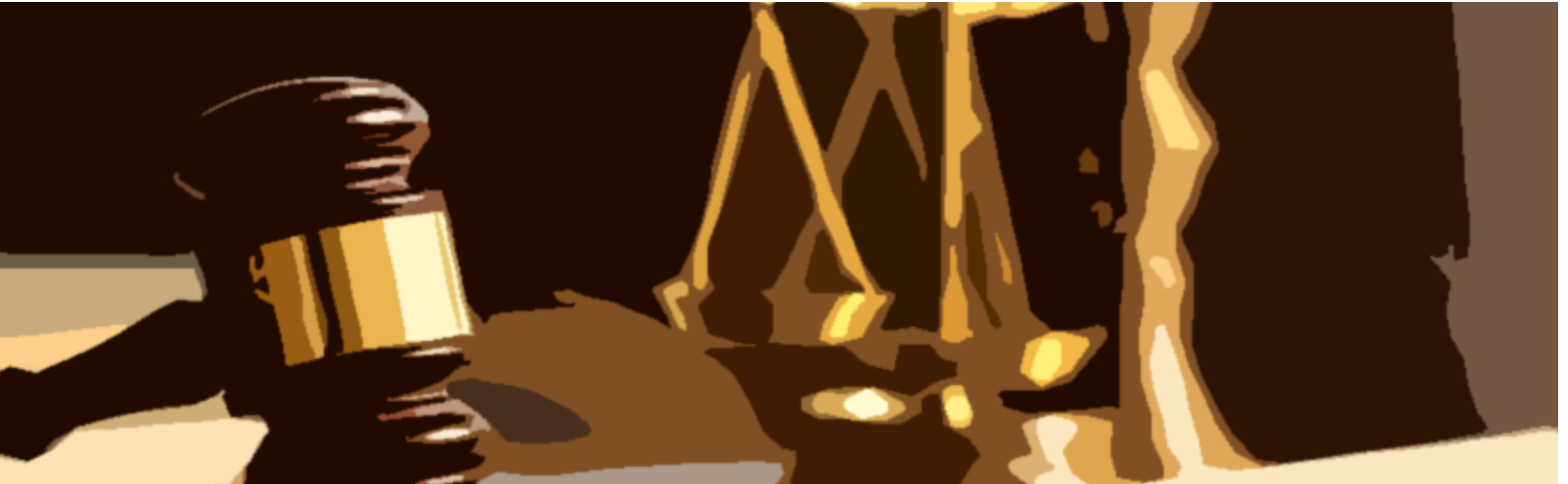




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CASE STUDY #2



SITUATION

An acupuncturist received a call from the clinic to attend an immediate appointment. When the acupuncturist arrived, the patient was already waiting. The acupuncturist felt the need to rush, and did not take the necessary time to ensure patient safety.

CONSEQUENCE

This resulted in burn injuries to the patient as well as a failure of the acupuncturist to respond appropriately to the adverse incident.

IDENTIFIED GAPS IN THIS CASE

1. Failure to recognize the risks of using flammable essential oils when performing fire cupping.
2. Failure to respond appropriately to the incident.
3. Failure to obtain written consent before treating the patient.
4. Failure to accurately document the incident on the patient record.

WHAT ACUPUNCTURISTS CAN LEARN FROM THIS CASE

Being rushed does not absolve acupuncturists from their duty of care.

Last minute appointments do not release you from your responsibility to ensure your patient receives safe and competent services. Some strategies to consider if you find yourself in a similar situation:

- Try to reschedule the appointment so you have enough time to prepare properly.
- If you cannot reschedule, talk to the clinic and/or patient about your concerns and manage their expectations.



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CASE STUDY #2 (cont...)

- If you do not have enough time to provide proper care, respectfully decline the appointment.

By following these steps, you can build trust with your patients and clinic, and protect yourself in case of complaints or legal action.

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

For more information on how to provide safe acupuncture treatment, review the following documents on our [website](#).

- Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy
- Patient Records Standards of Practice
- Standards of Competency and Practice

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT TRANSPARENCY

Disciplinary Decisions are available on the College's [website](#).

