

Dr. Rocco Gerace
Registrar, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
80 College Street
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 2E2

December 11, 2009

Dear Dr. Gerace:

Re: CPSO & Dr. Roland Chee Kong Wong

We are writing to express our concern about the College's consideration of an interim suspension of Dr. Roland Wong's license to practice medicine in Ontario. We understand he is under investigation for his practice of completing Special Diet Allowance application forms for patients living on social assistance. We also understand that an interim suspension applies in cases in which a physician's conduct exposes or is likely to expose patients to harm or injury.

We do not believe the completion of Special Diet Allowance application forms has the potential to injure or harm patients. The only outcome of the completion of Special Diet Allowance application forms is the provision of additional income for individuals and families living in poverty. This is likely to have a positive impact on those individuals' or families' health outcomes, given the strong association between living in poverty and poor health.

We have all had the opportunity to review the notices of hearings sent to Dr. Wong. We cannot conceive of harm or injury to patients that might arise from the continuing ability of Dr. Wong to practice medicine. We sincerely hope you do not issue an interim order to suspend his license.

Sincerely,

Gary Bloch MD CCFP
St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto
Assistant Professor, Department of Family and Community Medicine, University of Toronto

*On behalf of:
(signatures verified by e-mail)*

Joyce Barrett MD

Michaela Beder MD
Resident in Psychiatry, University of Toronto

Philip B. Berger MD
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