

College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador

Summary of Adjudication Tribunal Decision

IN THE MATTER OF: Dr. Ikechukwu (Steven) Madu

In its written decision dated December 5, 2017, an Adjudication Tribunal of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador found Dr. Madu, an obstetrician/gynecologist, guilty of professional misconduct in relation to complaints filed by three patients.

Complaint #1: The Tribunal found that during a pre-natal clinic visit on July 30, 2014, Dr. Madu did not provide adequate supervision to a medical resident who assessed the Complainant Lambert on Dr. Madu's behalf. The Tribunal also found that Dr. Madu omitted to put a plan in place to induce Lambert at 38-39 weeks in keeping with her acknowledged diabetic status. Lambert was admitted to hospital at 41 weeks. An ultrasound revealed intrauterine death.

Complaint #2: The Tribunal found that on his arrival to the delivery suite on June 6, 2014, Dr. Madu omitted to ensure that the Complainant McKee was connected to the tocodynamometer. The Tribunal also found that Dr. Madu failed to appreciate that McKee's fetal heart tracings were abnormal and the need to take steps to expedite the delivery. McKee delivered a stillborn infant.

Complaint #3: The Tribunal found that on July 18, 2014, Dr. Madu proceeded with a gynecological surgical procedure, known as an endometrial ablation, on the Complainant Hynes-Pelley without assuring himself of her documented history. The Tribunal also found that Dr. Madu failed to discuss and document the risk and benefits of this surgical procedure.

The Tribunal found that in each of the three complaints, Dr. Madu failed to apply and maintain the standards of practice expected by the profession as defined in s. 4(h) of the College's *Code of Ethics*. The Tribunal found that his actions in each of the three Complainants amounted to conduct deserving of sanction as defined in the *Medical Act, 2011*.

The Tribunal accepted a joint submission on behalf of Dr. Madu and the College which indicated that Dr. Madu's licence to practise medicine in the area of obstetrics was suspended by the Quality Assurance Committee of the College in August 2014. The joint submission also indicated that Dr. Madu underwent two external assessments of his skill and competence to practise obstetrics and gynecology and successfully completed his Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada final examination prior to receiving a full licence to practice obstetrics and gynecology in April 2016.

The Tribunal ordered as follows:

1. Dr. Madu provide a written apology to each of the Complainants.
2. Dr. Madu attend before the Adjudication Tribunal to be reprimanded.
3. Dr. Madu's licence to practise medicine be suspended for a period of three months.
4. Dr. Madu complete a continuing education course addressing ethical conduct and informed consent.
5. Dr. Madu pay the costs of the College in relation to the investigation and the hearing in the amount of \$20,000.
6. The Registrar will publish a summary of the Decision and Order of the Tribunal.

The most recent practice address of Dr. Madu:

Labrador West Health Centre
1700 Nichols-Adam Highway
Labrador City, NL A2V 0B2

Linda Inkpen, MD
Registrar
January 5, 2018