



For immediate release

Illegal practice of medicine

The Collège des médecins warns the public that Dr. Photios Giannakis is currently temporarily barred from practicing medicine

- He has been temporarily disbarred as of April 1st, 2020 but continues to practice medicine illegally.
- The prescriptions he writes for medications are not valid and will not be honored by pharmacists.
- Prescriptions for laboratory and imaging tests are not valid and will not be filled by laboratories.

Montreal, April 23rd, 2021 – The Collège des médecins du Québec (CMQ) wishes to inform the public that Dr. Photios Giannakis, a family physician practicing in Laval, has been temporarily barred of the Order of Physicians since April 1st, 2020. Consequently, he has not been allowed to practice medicine for more than one year.

This temporary striking off is valid pending a final decision on the disciplinary complaint brought against him by the syndic of the CMQ is rendered by the disciplinary council, which is an independent tribunal of the CMQ in the performance of its duties.

Invalid pharmaceutical prescriptions and cash payment

The CMQ has received information from patients and pharmacists that Dr. Giannakis would write his patients prescriptions for medications that are invalid and cannot be honored at the pharmacy. In addition, according to the information obtained, patients would be required to pay for their medical consultation in cash payment.

Since the spring of 2020, the CMQ has taken possession of the files of Dr. Giannakis' former patients in order to ensure, among other things, the follow-up of laboratory and imaging tests that were previously prescribed.

Repeated steps taken by the CMQ

- March 2020: the CMQ syndic filed a disciplinary complaint against Dr. Giannakis, which included a request for provisional striking off for having practiced medicine without respecting the limitation imposed on his right to practice. Dr. Giannakis had also failed to respond to his patients requests for their medical records and had prescribed benzodiazepines to patients, contrary to a commitment made in 2012.

- April 2020: the disciplinary board, which is an independent tribunal of the CMQ in the performance of its duties, provisionally disbarred Dr. Giannakis. Nevertheless, he continued to follow up on laboratory results and to see patients in consultation.
- May 2020: The CMQ turned to the Superior Court, which granted an interim injunction and issued several orders to remedy the situation. However, Dr. Giannakis reoffended and violated these orders.
- Subsequently, the CMQ filed another provisional injunction as well as an application for a third special order, in connection with contempt charges.
- December 2020: The Superior Court found Dr. Giannakis guilty of contempt of court and imposed a fine of \$24,000. Despite this judgment, the CMQ has evidence that he continues to practice medicine.
- December 2020: The disciplinary board found Dr. Giannakis guilty on all counts of the disciplinary complaint.
- April 2021: A disciplinary hearing on sanction was held and the Disciplinary Board took the case under advisement.

"As a professional association, our primary mission is to ensure the protection of the public. In order to fulfill our mandate, we monitor and evaluate the practice of medicine in Quebec and control the illegal practice of medicine. Without commenting on this particular case, which is currently before the courts, the CMQ would like to remind the citizens that a physician cannot practice medicine in Québec if he or she is not registered with the Order," explained Dr. Mauril Gaudreault, president of the CMQ.

For more information

[Notice of disbarment and disciplinary decisions regarding Dr. Giannakis](#) *(In the Physician directory, check the box to include ex-members).*

[Superior Court Judgment](#)

[Backgrounder - Dr. Photios Giannakis](#)

About the Collège des médecins du Québec

The Collège des médecins du Québec is a professional order whose mission is to protect the public by providing quality medicine.

Information

Leslie Labranche, Senior Advisor - Media Relations

Collège des médecins du Québec | media@cmq.org | Media line: 514 933-4179