

**Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board
PRESS RELEASE**

Suspension of Registration of TCM Physician

CHOW YUEN PIN (邹云滨)

Mr Chow Yuen Pin (邹云滨) (“Chow”), previously the Medical Director of Kin Teck Tong Private Limited (庆德堂) at 133 New Bridge Road, #B2-30/31 Chinatown Point, Singapore 059413, is a registered TCM physician.

2. A complaint was lodged against Chow by the Complainant that she suffered from traumatic pneumothorax (右气胸) after the acupuncture treatment administered by Chow during the commercial promotion event at her office on 22 May 2015 (the “Event”). An Investigation Committee (“IC”) Inquiry was subsequently convened.

3. The Board found that the acupuncture treatment administered by Chow on the Complainant on 22 May 2015 during the Event was administered without due regard to the patient’s best interest, safety and well-being. The Board made the following findings:

- (a) The Event was not an appropriate and proper setting to administer acupuncture treatment.
- (b) Chow did not adequately explain the risks of acupuncture treatment to the Complainant and other available options for treatment and as such, did not obtain informed consent from her before proceeding with the acupuncture treatment. This was in breach of clause 4.2.4 of the Ethical Code, and amounted to a contravention of Section 19(1)(f) of the TCM Practitioners Act (the “**Act**”).
- (c) Chow failed to carry out an adequate assessment of the Complainant’s medical condition through history taking and appropriate TCM clinical examination before proceeding with the acupuncture treatment. This was in breach of clause 4.1.1(a) of the Ethical Code, and amounted to a contravention of Section 19(1)(f) of the Act.
- (d) Chow did not keep proper records and documentation of the treatment process on the Complainant in accordance with paragraph 4.1.2 of the Ethical Code, which amounted to a breach of Section 19(1)(f) of the Act.

4. With regard to the promotional activities which were carried out during the Event, Chow had permitted and was complicit in the activities that were carried out. Such activities included explicit advertising of the clinic’s services, including encouraging attendees to seek consultation at the clinic by inter alia distributing promotional treatment vouchers to attendees. The Board found that Chow was in breach of clauses 4.4.1, 4.4.2, 4.4.3 and 4.4.4 of the Ethical Code. This amounted to a contravention of Section 19(1)(f) of the Act.

5. The Board decided to impose the following sanctions against Chow pursuant to Section 19(2) of the TCM Practitioners Act:

- (a) In relation to Chow's breaches pertaining to the acupuncture treatment administered on the Complainant during the Event, the Board ordered as follows:
 - (i) suspension of Chow's registration as a TCM physician for a period of 3 months,
 - (ii) impose a financial penalty of \$3,000, and
 - (iii) censure.
- (b) In relation to Chow's breaches pertaining to the promotional activities, the Board ordered as follows:
 - (i) suspension of Chow's registration as a TCM physician for 1 month,
 - (ii) impose a financial penalty of \$2,000, and
 - (iii) censure.
- (c) As for the complaint that the acupuncture treatment caused the Complainant to suffer pneumothorax, no determination was made by the Board on this issue based on the evidence adduced during the inquiry hearing.

6. Chow was suspended for a total period of 4 months and he has to pay a total financial penalty of \$5,000.

7. In addition, pursuant to Section 20(1) of the Act, Chow was ordered to pay costs and expenses of or incidental to the inquiry.

TCM PRACTITIONERS BOARD 中医管理委员会
12 SEPTEMBER 2017
