

Hearing status: CONFIRMED

Hearing type: Appeal

Physician: Dr. Bruce Hoffman

Hearing date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Zoom

Charges:

Dr. Hoffman appeals the Hearing Tribunal decisions issued July 25, 2023 and June 12, 2024 on the following grounds:

1. The Hearing Tribunal erred in finding that Dr. Hoffman provided laboratory testing for his Patient, contrary to the College's Sale of Product by Physicians Standard of Practice as that Standard of Practice does not apply to private laboratory testing.
2. The Hearing Tribunal erred in finding that charging the Patient fees on the same visit as billing for insured services, on certain enumerated dates, was contrary to s. 9 and s. 11 of the *Alberta Health Care Insurance Act*. That legislation does allow both insured and uninsured services to be provided on the same visit and billed accordingly. On the specified dates, Dr. Hoffman provided both insured and uninsured services to the Patient and was entitled to be paid for each of those services.
3. The Hearing Tribunal erred in finding that Dr. Hoffman failing to create a contemporaneous record of assessment and treatment on five enumerated dates rises to the level of unprofessional conduct. That failure was in the nature of administrative error and not unprofessional conduct as defined by the *Health Professions Act*.

Dr. Hoffman appeals the Hearing Tribunal decisions issued March 24, 2025 and November 19, 2025 on the following grounds:

1. The Hearing Tribunal erred in finding that Dr. Hoffman engaged in any duplicate, over-lapping, or double billing contrary to s. 9 or 11 of the *Alberta Health Care Insurance Act*, or at all. The Hearing Tribunal erred in principle
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by concluding that not “clearly identifying in the patient chart what aspects of a patient’s appointment with him are publicly insure and which are uninsured” amounts to actually double-charging both the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and the Patient for the same services provided, or amounts to a breach of section 9 of the *Alberta Health Care Insurance Act*.

2. The Hearing Tribunal erred in finding that Dr. Hoffman failed to ensure the confidentiality of the Patient’s records by sending the Patient her chart by way of a sealed, courier-delivered package. The Hearing Tribunal erred in principle by concluding that it amounted to a breach of the Patient Record Standard of Practice or in any way unprofessional conduct to send a patient their patient chart by way of a sealed, courier-delivered package to their mailing address and which was not accessed by anyone except the Patient.
3. The Hearing Tribunal erred in imposing a fine of \$5,000. Such a large fine is disproportionate to the conduct at issue and the lack of any actual violations of patient confidentiality or privacy. Fines, especially large ones, must be justified with reasons and accord with the severity of the conduct and the degree of harm that occurred, if any.

The Complaints Director cross-appeals the Hearing Tribunal sanction decision issued November 19, 2025 on the following grounds:

1. The Hearing Tribunal erred in its interpretation and application of the CPSA Standard of Practice – Sale of Products by Regulated Members (previously known as Sale of Products by Physicians).
 2. The Hearing Tribunal erred in its assessment of the evidence before it regarding the cost of private laboratory testing charged to the patient by the physician and the evidence of the cost of the private laboratory testing to the physician.
 3. The Hearing Tribunal erred in its interpretation and application of case law regarding the fiduciary duty owed by the physician to the patient.
 4. The Hearing Tribunal failed in its duty to provide responsible justification for its interpretation of the CPSA Standard of Practice – Sale of Products by Regulated Members (previously known as Sale of Products by Physicians).
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To attend, please email hearings.director@cpsa.ab.ca by Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

While open to the public, the Council Appeals Panel can close a portion or all of an appeal at any time. When this occurs, all those who registered to attend the appeal will be asked to leave.

The appeal date is subject to change. In those cases, a revised appeal notice will be published to CPSA's website.

Inquiries about this or other hearings can be directed to:

hearings.director@cpsa.ab.ca
