

# Summary of Discipline Committee Hearing

## DR. MEDHAT SALAMA

Hearing Date: December 19, 2012



### ALLEGATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

- Member used inappropriate drug to treat a guinea pig
- Member failed to obtain client's informed consent to administer the drug

### BRIEF SUMMARY

The member examined a two-year-old guinea pig which had a small patch of dry skin on its back. The member administered Convenia and the animal died four days later.

### DECISION

The member pleaded guilty and was found guilty with respect to the allegations. The member and the College negotiated an Agreed Statement of Facts, including an admission of professional misconduct.

### PENALTY

- Reprimand
- Suspension of the member's licence to practise veterinary medicine for two months. One month to be suspended if the member completes a mentoring program addressing consent to treatment and the use of off-label medication. The second month to be suspended if the member completes a research paper indicating what was learned from the mentoring program and containing a reasonable number of current references.
- The member will pay costs to the College of \$2,500.
- Pursuant to legislation, the matter is published including the member's name.

### REASONS FOR DECISION

The Panel deliberated and considered the submissions of both counsel, the evidence

presented in the Agreed Statement of Facts and appendices and made findings of professional misconduct against the member.

There was no clear indication in the medical record that the member had obtained informed consent for the extra label use of Convenia in the species in this case.

An expert witness reviewed the case and supported the allegations that Convenia is inappropriate for use in guinea pigs.

The Panel noted that members of the profession would see these actions as dishonourable, disgraceful, or unprofessional and that they represent professional misconduct.