

**PUBLIC HEARING****Interim Order Committee  
Initial Hearing****12 February 2024**

**Name:** LORINCZ, Adam  
**Registration number:** 193646  
**Case number:** CAS-205724-H0P4J8

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**General Dental Council:** Miss Natalie Bird, Counsel.  
Instructed by Claire Elam, IHLPS.

**Registrant:** Present  
Unrepresented

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**Outcome:** Interim conditions of practice  
**Duration:** 12 months

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**Committee members:** Martin Isherwood (Chair, Dental Care Professional member)  
Rebecca Northover (Dentist member)  
Jeannett Martin (Lay member)

**Legal adviser:** David Marshall

**Committee Secretary:** Andrew Keeling

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The role of the Interim Orders Committee (IOC) is to undertake a risk assessment based on the information before it. Its role is to assess the nature and substance of any risk to the public in all the circumstances of the case and to consider whether it is necessary for the protection of the public, is otherwise in the public interest, or is in the registrant's own interests to impose an interim order on their registration. It is not the role of the IOC to make findings of fact in relation to any charge. That is the role of a differently constituted committee at a later stage in the process.

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Mr Lorincz,

1. This was an Interim Orders Committee initial hearing. You were present , but not represented at the hearing. Miss Natalie Bird, Counsel, appeared on behalf of the General Dental Council (GDC). The hearing was held remotely on Microsoft Teams.

## **Preliminary Matter**

### **Application for Adjournment - Withdrawn**

2. Miss Bird, on behalf of the GDC, informed the Committee that you had emailed the GDC today at 2:25 a.m. to request a postponement of this hearing. She submitted that you had stated in the email that you had only received the papers for this hearing yesterday, and you had not had an opportunity to prepare or seek legal advice. Miss Bird submitted that the GDC opposed this application.
3. In oral evidence, you stated that you had previously not understood the nature of an IOC hearing. You stated that you now understand that the IOC only considers the risk you may pose to the public as a result of the concerns raised against you and will not make factual findings. On that basis, you stated that you were happy to withdraw your application for adjournment and to proceed with the hearing today.

## **Background**

4. Your case was referred to the IOC by GDC Case Examiners on 8 January 2024, after they had considered a complaint received by the GDC on 6 January 2022. The complaint was from a patient, who raised concerns about implant treatment you provided to her on 6 July 2021. The patient states that following this appointment, one of the implants fell out and two had to be taken out by a subsequent treating dentist as they had been fitted incorrectly. Furthermore, the patient stated that when she tried to follow this up with you a few months after the fitting, she discovered the practice had either moved or closed for business and she had not been notified.
5. The GDC began investigating the complaint, and requested in writing from you information about your employment situation, evidence of your indemnity insurance and the patient's clinical records. The GDC received no reply, despite requesting this information more than once.
6. The GDC commissioned a Clinical Dental Adviser to assess the evidence that was available (mainly the complaint from the patient and the clinical records of the subsequent treating dentist). The Clinical Dental Adviser concluded that the standard of care had been significantly below the expected standard.

7. The Case Examiners decided to refer your case to a hearing of the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) to consider allegations concerning the standard of clinical care provided to the patient, your failure to make arrangements for the continuing care of the patient, that you did not have appropriate indemnity insurance, and your failure to cooperate with a GDC investigation.

## **Submissions**

8. Miss Bird, on behalf of the GDC, submitted that an interim order is necessary for the protection of the public and is otherwise in the public interest.
9. Miss Bird firstly informed the Committee that you have no previous adverse fitness to practise findings against you. In respect of the protection of the public, she submitted that there have been a number of concerns raised against you, which could indicate a risk of repetition. She submitted that the conclusions in the Clinical Dental Adviser's report that your standard of care had been significantly below the expected standard meant that you posed a serious risk to the public. Furthermore, she submitted that before today you have failed to engage with the GDC's investigation, which has resulted in the GDC not being able to obtain evidence of your current indemnity or employment status.
10. In respect of the public interest, Miss Bird submitted that if the allegations were to be found proved, it would bring the dental profession into disrepute. Furthermore, she submitted that an informed member of the public would be shocked and troubled if no restrictions were imposed on your registration.
11. Miss Bird invited the Committee to impose an interim order of conditions on your registration for a period of 12 months. She submitted that this should include a condition that you should provide the GDC with information in respect of your current employment and evidence that you hold adequate indemnity insurance if you return to practise in the UK, as she understands that you are currently living abroad. In respect of the duration, she submitted that 12 months was sufficient as your PCC hearing should be listed within nine months following the Case Examiners' decision.
12. You submitted that you were happy to accept the imposition of interim conditions on your registration as being a fair solution to the case. You submitted that you cannot currently comment on the case as you do not have access to the patient's notes or radiographs, which you have been trying to obtain but had been unsuccessful. You submitted that you took full responsibility for not communicating with the GDC, but you had moved abroad to a remote island with practically no internet access. You also had to deal with urgent matters in your family life. You are currently living abroad and hold full indemnity to practise there. However, you confirmed that in the long term you wish to return to practise in the UK, and will ensure that you hold indemnity insurance before doing so. You submitted that you understood that you held full indemnity insurance during the period in question. However, as this was

arranged by the practice you cannot be sure. You submitted that you have been a dental surgeon for 20 years and you do not see yourself as a risk to the public. You said that you kept statistics of failures and successes and the audit of your outcomes found that they were in line with other practitioners.

### **Decision on Interim Order**

13. The Committee considered the documentation before it. It heard and considered the submissions by Miss Bird, on behalf of the GDC, and your submissions. It accepted the advice of the Legal Adviser. The Committee had regard to the GDC's "*Guidance for the Interim Orders Committee*" (December 2023).
14. The Committee bore in mind that its purpose was to assess the nature and substance of any risk to the public in all the circumstances of this case and not to determine the facts of the case. It considered whether it was necessary for the protection of the public, was otherwise in the public interest, or was in your own interests to impose an interim order on your registration. Throughout its considerations the Committee applied the principle of proportionality, balancing the public interest with your own interests.
15. The Committee noted that serious and credible concerns have been raised about your implant treatment and your engagement with the GDC's investigation into these matters. It noted the conclusion of the Clinical Dental Adviser's report, which stated that the care you provided to the patient was, "*significantly below the level of professional practice reasonably expected*". The Committee also noted that you appeared to accept that you had not engaged with the GDC's investigation into these matters and you could not confirm whether you held indemnity insurance during your treatment of the patient. The Committee considered that there may be a risk of repetition of these concerns which would present a real risk of harm to the public. The Committee determined, therefore, that an interim order is necessary for the protection of the public.
16. The Committee also determined that an interim order was required on public interest grounds. The Committee determined that serious damage would be caused to public confidence in the dental professions and the maintenance of proper professional standards and conduct if an order was not imposed. Furthermore, the Committee concluded that an informed member of the public looking on would be surprised if an interim order was not made pending the outcome of the fitness to practise proceedings.
17. The Committee next considered whether it would be sufficient and proportionate to place an interim order of conditions on your registration. In so doing, the Committee has had regard to the nature of the allegations against you. It considered that workable conditions could be formulated which would be sufficient to protect the public, satisfy the public interest considerations, and ensure that you held

appropriate indemnity insurance if you were to return to the UK to practise pending the outcome of your substantive hearing. It further noted that you now appear to be co-operating with the GDC's investigation and you were willing to comply with the GDC's proposed conditions. The Committee considered that to impose an interim order of suspension would be disproportionate in the circumstances of this case.

18. The Committee considered the conditions proposed by the GDC as outlined in Miss Bird's oral submissions, namely that you should provide evidence to the GDC of your indemnity arrangements if you returned to practise in the UK. It noted that these would satisfactorily address the risks arising from this case.

19. The Committee has therefore determined that it is appropriate and proportionate to impose an interim order of conditions on your registration for a period of 12 months. The Committee is satisfied that this would allow sufficient time for your case to be considered by the PCC.

20. The interim conditions as they will appear against your name in the Register are as follows:

1. You must provide the GDC, within seven days, the contact details and arrangements for any appointment you accept or are currently undertaking which requires GDC registration, and allow the GDC to exchange information with your employer or any contracting body for which you provide dental services.

2. From the date that these conditions take effect, you must inform the GDC within seven days of being notified of:

- i. any formal disciplinary action taken against you;
- ii. any NHS investigation;
- iii. any regulatory or enforcement action taken against you or a practice for which you are the registered provider;
- iv. any patient complaint received about your clinical practice or conduct at work.

3. You must inform the GDC, within seven days of these conditions taking effect, if you are registered with any overseas regulator (or equivalent authority) or within seven days of making an application for registration with any overseas regulator or equivalent authority.

4. You must immediately inform the GDC if you make arrangements to return to the UK to provide dental services which require GDC registration.
5. You must provide evidence to the GDC's Case Review Team of your current employment arrangements while working abroad.
6. You must provide evidence to the GDC of your indemnity arrangements before practising in the UK.
7. You must inform, within seven days, the following parties within the UK that your registration is subject to the conditions listed at [1] to [6]:
  - Any organisation or person employing you or who has an arrangement with you to undertake dental work;
  - Any professional regulatory body you are registered with, or apply to be registered with (at the time of application);
  - Any locum agency or out-of-hours service you are registered with or apply to be registered with (at the time of application);
  - Any prospective employer (at the time of application).

You must forward written evidence of your compliance with this condition to the GDC within seven days of notifying the relevant UK parties of your conditions.

## **Review of the order**

21. Unless there has been a material change of circumstances, the Committee will review the interim order on the papers at an administrative meeting within the next six months. The Committee will be invited by the GDC to confirm the order and you will be asked whether you wish to put any written submissions before the Committee. You will be notified of the outcome in writing following the decision of the Committee.
22. Alternatively, you are entitled to have the interim order reviewed at a hearing. This means that you will be able to attend and make representations, send a representative on your behalf or submit written representations about whether the order continues to be necessary. You must inform the GDC if you would like the interim order to be reviewed at a hearing. Even if you do not request a hearing, where there has been a material change of circumstances that might mean that the order should be revoked, varied or replaced, the Committee will review the order at a hearing to which you will be invited to attend.
23. That concludes this determination.