

GENERAL DENTAL COUNCIL

AND

PONDUGULA, Paul

[Registration number: 255943]

**NOTICE OF INQUIRY
SUBSTANTIVE HEARING**

Notice that an inquiry will be conducted by a Practice Committee of the General Dental Council, to be held at:

**The General Dental Council
37 Wimpole Street
London
W1G 8DQ**

Commencing at **10:00am** on **Tuesday 26 May 2026**.

The heads of charge contained within this sheet are current at the date of publication. They are subject to amendments at any time before or during the hearing. For the final charge, findings of fact and determination against the registrant, please visit the Recent Decisions page at <https://www.dentalhearings.org/hearings-and-decisions/decisions> after this hearing has finished.

Committee members:

Gregory Heath	Dentist	Chair
Caroline Ross	DCP	
Jayne Hilderley	Lay	

Legal Adviser:

Suzanne Palmer	Legal Adviser
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CHARGE

PONDUGULA, Paul, a dentist, Statutory Exam 2014 BDS Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences 2004, is summoned to appear before the Professional Conduct Committee on Tuesday 26 May 2026 for an inquiry into the following charge:

The Charge

The hearing will be held to consider the following charge against you:

That being registered as a dentist Paul Pondugula's (255943) fitness to practise is impaired by reason of misconduct. In that:

1. *At an appointment on 6 July 2023, you caused a needlestick injury to Witness 1.*
2. *You used the anaesthetic needle on Patient A when you knew or ought to have known it had been involved in a needlestick injury.*
3. *You failed to immediately inform Patient A that you had used a needle during her treatment that had been involved in a needle stick injury on 06 July 2023.*
4. *Your actions at allegation 2 put Patient A's safety at risk.*
5. *Your conduct at allegation 3 was:*
 - a. *Misleading*
 - b. *Failing in your duty of candour*

The identification schedule, Schedule A¹, is enclosed.

¹ Schedule A is a private document which cannot be disclosed.