



BEFORE THE DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE OF PAKISTAN MEDICAL COMMISSION

In the matter of

Complaint No. PF. 12-Comp-242/2019-DC/PMC

Reference from Sindh Healthcare Commission Vs. Dr. Razia Memon & Dr. Munawwar Hussain

Professor Dr. Naqib Ullah Achakzai	Chairman
Mr. Jawad Amin Khan	Member
Barrister Ch. Sultan Mansoor	Secretary
Expert of Gynecology	

Present:

Dr. Razia Memon (32151-S)	Respondent No. 1
Dr. Munawwar Hussain (13365-S)	Respondent No. 2
Hearing dated	26.10.2022

I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

1. Information was received from Sindh Healthcare Commission on 27.05.2019 regarding a Complaint filed by Mr. Ashfaq Ahmed Memon (the "Complainant") against Dr. Razia Memon (the "Respondent No. 1"), consultant Gynecologist and Dr. Munawwar Hussain, Administrator (the "Respondent No. 2") working at Sindh Medical Centre, Karachi (the "Hospital"). Brief facts of the complaint are that:

Decision of the Disciplinary Committee in the matter of Complaint No. PF. 12-Comp-242/2019-DC/PMC

- a) *The Patient was admitted at the Hospital presenting complaint of labor pains. As per the Complainant, the patient's condition during the process of labor started worsening. Patient's attendant called the doctor but not a single duty doctor was available in the Hospital. Respondent No. 1 attended the patient after one-hour post to the receipt of an emergency call, however, it was too late to recover the patient from critical situation. The patient suffered from Post-Partum Hemorrhage (PPH) which resulted in her death.*
- b) *Sindh Healthcare Commission concluded its enquiry with the following observations:
'Enquiry Panel has unanimously concluded that there is element of negligence on the part of Dr. Razia and Administration of Sindh Medical Center, Hilal-e-Ahmar Hospital, impose a fine of Rs.100,000/ on the consultant Dr. Razia and Rs. 100,000 on Dr. Munawwar Administrator. This case is being forwarded to Pakistan Medical and Dental Council for disciplinary action against Dr. Razia Memon''.*

II. NOTICES TO RESPONDENTS

2. In view of the reference received from the Sindh Healthcare Commission, Notices dated 30.07.2019 were served to Respondent doctors directing them to submit their comments and record of the patient along with copies of their registration certificates.

III. REPLY OF RESPONDENT NO. 1, DR. RAZIA MEMON

3. Dr. Razia Memon (Respondent No. 1) submitted her reply on 09.08.2019 wherein she contended that:
- a) *The patient visited the Respondent No. 1 at her Clinic on 13.01.2019 with labor pain, at about 36/37 weeks of gestational age. Respondent No. 1 examined the patient on P/V, she was 2CM (Gestational Age was about 39 + - 1 week). She was admitted, moved to the ward and her progress was regularly monitored. On being informed that the patient has been moved to the Labor room, the Respondent No. 1 examined her and on PV she was about 7/8 CM. The vitals were stable and membrane was ruptured, so Respondent No. 1 started augmentation with 5 units Syntocin. The Patient successfully delivered a baby boy.*
- b) *All Post-Partum medication and procedures were routinely completed. The Patient was under observation, stable and interacted with her family members, seeing the delivered baby boy.*



- c) *After about 25/30 Minutes, patient started bleeding abruptly and went into PPH (Post-Partum Hemorrhage). A critical medical emergency was created and all preventive measures were taken under my supervision. The blood loss was about 400/500 ML. She became stable and the Patient's attendants were informed of the severe and critical aspect of PPH and blood transfusion was advised. After about half an hour the patient again started bleeding profusely and collapsed due to hypo- volumic shock.*
- d) *Patient's vitals were unstable and the patient was intubated, thereafter, patient's vitals reversed. The Patient's attendants were consulted and decision with consent was taken to shift the patient for further management in Hilal-e-Ahmer Hospital (Equipped with oxygen and monitoring). Qamar ul Islam Hospital was the nearest hospital where ventilator was available. I came to know after some time that the patient expired between shifting and arrival. Further, the fine imposed by SHCC has already been paid, so can't be prosecuted twice, now before the PMC*

IV. REPLY OF RESPONDENT NO. 2, DR. MUNAWWAR HUSSAIN

4. Respondent No. 2, Dr. Munawwar Hussain submitted his reply on 23.08.2019, wherein he contended that:
- a) *The Complaint is not against Sindh Medical Centre rather specifically against Dr. Razia Memon. Sindh Medical Centre and the Clinic of Razia Memon are two different and independent entities albeit both are in the same building, Hilal-e-Ahmer at Clifton, Karachi.*
- b) *Sindh Medical Centre is only providing Operation Theatre, Labor Room and admission rooms for patients to doctors. Admissions, discharge, shifting, diagnosis, prescription and treatment of the patients is the prerogative of the doctors and/or consultants and has nothing to do with the Sindh Medical Centre.*
- c) *The Sindh Healthcare Commission has 'misunderstood' that Dr. Razia Memon is an employee of Sindh Medical Centre and has as such incorrectly dragged Sindh Medical Centre into its enquiry.*
- d) *Hence, it is requested that the complaint/application be dismissed.*

V. HEARING

5. The matter was fixed for hearing before the Disciplinary Committee on 26.10.2022. Notices dated 24.10.2022 were issued to the Complainant and Respondent doctors, directing them to appear before the Disciplinary Committee on 26.10.2022.

6. On the date of hearing, the Complainant did not appear before the Disciplinary Committee, however, both the Respondents appeared in person at the date of hearing. Regarding the instant Complainant, the Respondents relied on their replies already submitted to this Committee.

VI. EXPERT OPINION

7. A consultant gynecologist was appointed as expert to assist the Disciplinary Committee in this matter. The Expert opined as under:

Patient delivered spontaneously at clinic with Dr Razia Memon.

She said that after delivery patient went into PPH. According to her it was due to Atony. She gave Syntocinon, Vaginal Packing and Tamponade and within one hour patient was shifted for another hospital but patient expired on way to another hospital.

Dr. Razia did not anticipate PPH. Responded too late to complaint resulting in death of patient.

Committee found her negligent in her duties resulting in death of patient.

VII. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION


8. The Disciplinary Committee has perused the relevant record and the submissions of the Respondent in the instant Complaint.
9. The Expert in this case has opined that the Respondent had failed to act appropriately and objectively while providing treatment to the patient and could not foresee the condition of the patient.
10. We observe that the facts related to this case have been earlier investigated and the Sindh Healthcare Commission has referred the case of Dr. Razia Memon to this Commission. It is also brought to our attention that the Complainant/Patient in this instant complaint has passed away. Nonetheless, this Committee shall pronounce judgement on the actions and conduct of the Respondent Dr. Razia Memon, as per the mandate given to it by the Pakistan Medical Commission Act 2020.



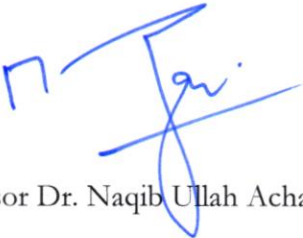
11. In view of the facts, submission of the party and the expert opinion, this Disciplinary Committee finds Dr. Razia Memon guilty of medical negligence. We direct that the Medical License of Respondent Dr. Razia Memon shall be suspended for a period of five (05) years. A fine of Rs. 500,000/- (Rupees five hundred thousand only) is also imposed upon Dr. Razia Memon. Dr. Razia Memon shall pay the amount of fine into the designated bank account of the Commission within 14 days from the issuance of this decision and forward a copy of the paid instrument to the office of the Secretary to the Disciplinary Committee. The Committee further recommends to Sindh Healthcare Commission to close the hospital of Respondents i.e. at Sindh Medical Centre, Karachi.


Mr. Jawad Amin Khan

Member


Barrister Ch. Sultan Mansoor

Secretary


Professor Dr. Naqib Ullah Achakzai

Chairman

22nd November, 2022