

**PUBLIC RECORD**

Date: 08/04/2024

Medical Practitioner's name:	Dr Sabri AHMED
GMC reference number:	7497907
Primary medical qualification:	MB BCh 1983 Al-Azhar University
Type of case	<b>Outcome on impairment</b>
Misconduct	Not impaired

**Summary of outcome**

Order revoked

**Legally Qualified Chair:**

Legally Qualified Chair:	Mr Ian comfort
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**Review on the Papers**

This case was reviewed on the papers, with the agreement of both parties, by a Legally Qualified Chair.

**Overarching Objective**

Throughout the decision making process the chair has borne in mind the statutory overarching objective as set out in s1 Medical Act 1983 (the 1983 Act) to protect, promote and maintain the health, safety and well-being of the public, to promote and maintain public confidence in the medical profession, and to promote and maintain proper professional standards and conduct for members of that profession.

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1. I have noted the background to Dr Ahmed's case, which was first considered by a medical practitioners tribunal in April 2023. Dr Ahmed qualified in 1983 in Egypt. He worked for a short period in the UK during 2016 and began working in the UK full-time in 2018. At the time of the events Dr Ahmed was practising as a Locum Consultant Oncologist at Portsmouth University Hospital NHS Trust ('the Trust') and was employed via an agency, Fresh Medical.
2. In August 2019, the General Medical Council ('GMC') began an investigation because Dr Ahmed had been convicted of fraud in France (the 'first investigation'). Dr Ahmed was notified of that GMC investigation in September 2019.
3. In March 2020, the GMC began an investigation into Dr Ahmed in connection with complaints emanating from Northampton General Hospital (the 'second investigation'). Dr Ahmed was notified of that GMC investigation in April 2020.
4. In or around July 2020, Dr Ahmed met with his clinical director at the Trust and said (1) that he had become aware the agency he was employed through had not let the Trust know about an investigation with the GMC, and (2) that his GMC investigation was '*closed and finished with*' or words to that effect. It was alleged that these were dishonest statements as they were untrue, and that Dr Ahmed knew them to be untrue.
5. It was further alleged that on or around 29 September 2020 Dr Ahmed completed a locum registration form for National Locums, a locum agency, and dishonestly answered 'no' to a number of questions regarding fitness to practice proceedings.
6. On 14 April 2023, the Tribunal found Dr Ahmed's fitness to practice to be impaired by reason of his misconduct. The Tribunal concluded that Dr Ahmed's actions in July 2020 and September 2020 amounted to repeated dishonesty, were a breach of trust and that Dr Ahmed had displayed a lack of insight into the impact his dishonesty had on public confidence in the profession. In mitigation the Tribunal noted that Dr Ahmed had four decades of professional experience and that his behaviour was wholly out of character. The Tribunal also took account of Dr Ahmed's personal circumstances at the time and the positive testimonials that he had provided. That Tribunal determined to suspend Dr Ahmed's registration for a period of 12 months.
7. In order to provide assistance at this review the Tribunal at the previous hearing recommended that Dr Ahmed provide:

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- A reflective statement demonstrating how he has acquired full insight into his misconduct, and how he will prevent its re-occurrence;
- Attendance on any appropriate course reflecting probity and ethics;
- Evidence that he has kept his medical knowledge and skills up-to-date; and
- Any other evidence Dr Ahmed considers might assist a reviewing Tribunal.

8. Dr Ahmed and the GMC have agreed that this review should be considered on the papers in accordance with Rule 21B of the General Medical Council (Fitness to Practise) Rules 2004. They have provided agreed terms of a decision which I could make at this review.

9. I have considered all of the evidence presented to me, and the agreed submissions made on behalf of Dr Ahmed and by the GMC. In the submissions, Dr Ahmed and the GMC agree that Dr Ahmed's fitness to practise is not impaired and that the sanction currently in place should be revoked.

10. I have taken into account that since the previous order was made Dr Ahmed has reflected at length and made a comprehensive plan to address the issues raised by the Tribunal. He has, as suggested:

- provided a reflective statement demonstrating full insight and how to prevent any repeat of his past misconduct;
- attended a Probity and Ethics course in October 2023 and also provides a reflection of that course;
- been fortunate that he has been able to work in France during his suspension in the UK. He has been fully open with his employer about his suspension and reasons for it and they have provided a reference to that effect;
- maintained his clinical CPD;
- sourced a professional mentor and has spent regular time with him reflecting on his past behaviour and in discussions about the impact of dishonesty on colleagues, patients, and the profession. Dr Ahmed intends to continue professional mentorship moving forward.

11. I have been provided with a copy of Dr Ahmed's reflective statement, certificates of attendance and completion of various courses, and a report from his mentor Professor A.

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12. I have borne in mind the statutory overarching objective which is to protect, promote and maintain the health, safety and well-being of the public, to promote and maintain public confidence in the medical profession, and to promote and maintain proper professional standards and conduct for the medical profession.

13. I have determined that Dr Ahmed's fitness to practise is no longer impaired by reason of his misconduct.

14. In reaching this decision, I have accepted the submissions put forward on Dr Ahmed's behalf that he has done all he can do to reflect on past misconduct and has taken a number of steps to assist him in gaining full insight into his misconduct. There has been no repetition of any misconduct and Dr Ahmed has provided the evidence the previous Tribunal suggest would assist in him showing that he was no longer impaired by his misconduct. I have accepted the observations of the GMC that Dr Ahmed has provided enough evidence to show he is no longer impaired.

15. In light of my decision, I direct that Dr Ahmed's current period of suspended registration be revoked with immediate effect.

16. Notification of this decision will be served on Dr Ahmed in accordance with the Medical Act 1983, as amended.