

Fitness to Practise Forum: 12th September 2007

Paper title: Paramedic Cases

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

At the last meeting of the Conduct and Competence Committee, the Committee asked to be provided with a review of paramedic cases that had been considered by panels. That review is attached as appendix one.

Decision

The forum is asked to discuss this paper.

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

Please see case report for resource implications

Appendices

Review of paramedic cases

Date of paper

28th August 2007

Appendix One: Paramedic Cases

Between 1st April 2004 and 31st July 2007, panels of the practise committees have reached final disposal decisions (decisions made at panels of the Conduct and Competence and Health Committee) in 55 cases.

Further information about fitness to practise cases can be found in the four Fitness to Practise Annual Report(s) 2004-2007.

This report sets out the details of the paramedic cases considered by panels.

Table 1.1: Number of Complaints Received

This table sets out the number of complaints that have been received about Paramedics and compares it to the total number of complaints and to the number of Paramedics who are on the register.

Year	Number of Complaints Received	Number of Paramedic Cases Received	Percentage of Allegations	Paramedic % of Register
2004-2005	172	26	15%	7%
2005-2006	316	43	14%	7%
2006-2007	322	81	25%	7%
2007-YTD	101	25	25%	7%

Table 1.2: Number of Cases Considered by Investigating Panels

This table sets out the number of paramedic cases considered by investigating panels and compares the case to answer percentage rate to the overall case to answer percentage rate.

Year	Cases Considered	Case to Answer	Paramedic Percentage	Total Number of Cases	Case to Answer	Percentage (All)
2004-2005	18	11	61%	172	82	48%
2005-2006	31	25	81%	178	101	57%
2006-2007	47	38	81%	224	148	65%
2007-YTD	15	9	60%	83	59	71%

Table 1.3: Number of Interim Orders

This table displays the number of interim orders that have been granted

Year	Number of Applications Granted	Number of Paramedics
2004-2005	15	1
2005-2006	15	0
2006-2007	17	5
2007-YTD	2	10
Total	49	16

Concluded Cases

Between 1st April 2004 and 31st July 2007 panels reached a final disposal decision in 281 cases. 55 of those cases were Paramedics. This comprises 20% of the total concluded cases.

Table 1.4: Outcome and Representation

This table sets out the outcome of cases and whether the paramedic was represented.

Outcome	Represented	Represented Self	No Representation	Total
Strike Off	1	2	13	16
Suspension	5	0	3	8
Conditions	4	0	3	7
Caution	12	6	0	18
No Further Action	2	0	0	2
Not Found	3	1	0	4
Total	27	9	19	55

Table 1.5: Outcome and Type of Complainant

This table sets out the outcome and the type of complainant

Outcome	Employer	Public	Police	22(6)	Other
Strike Off	12	0	0	4	0
Suspension	3	0	0	4	1
Conditions	3	2	0	2	0
Caution	11	2	1	3	1
No Further Action	1	0	0	0	0
Not Found	1	1	2	0	0
Total	31	5	3	13	2

Table 1.6: Outcome and Type of Allegation

This table sets out the outcome and the type of allegation before the panel.

Outcome	Conviction/Caution	Misconduct	Lack of Competence	Health	Other Regulator
Strike Off	5	11	0	0	0
Suspension	1	5	2	0	0
Conditions	0	2	4	1	0
Caution	3	11	4	0	0
No Further Action	0	1	1	0	0
Not Found	0	1	1	0	0
Total	9	31	12	1	0

Table 1.7: Outcome and Route to Registration

This table sets out the outcome and the route to registration.

Outcome	UK	GPA	GPB	International	Other/Not Known
Strike Off	16	0	0	0	0
Suspension	8	0	0	0	0
Conditions	7	0	0	0	0
Caution	17	1	0	0	0
No Further Action	2	0	0	0	0
Not Found	4	0	0	0	0
Total	54	1	0	0	0

Table 1.8 Outcome and Gender

This table sets out the outcome of cases by gender

Outcome	Female	Male
Strike Off	2	14
Suspension	1	7
Conditions	0	7
Caution	2	16
No Further Action	0	2
Not Found	2	2
Total	7	48

Types of Cases Considered

Since 1st April 2004 a range of cases have been considered by panels. The types of cases can be categorised into the broad categories set out below:

- Record Keeping – including poor record keeping and falsifying documentation
- Inappropriate behaviour in the workplace; including accessing pornographic websites and behaviour towards other colleagues
- Driving under the influence of alcohol including whilst at work
- Driving under the influence of alcohol whilst at work;
- Possession of child pornography;
- Misleading employer – including claiming sick and study leave;
- Theft – of drugs, trust property and charitable items;
- Patient Care; and
- Sexual Misconduct.