



## MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, October 17, 2024, Peterborough

# Patients of Kawartha Endodontics Encouraged to Seek Testing for Bloodborne Infections

## *2019 Lapse at Kawartha Endodontics May Pose a Risk for Exposed Patients*

Peterborough Public Health (PPH) is once more encouraging individuals who were patients of Kawartha Endodontics between January 1, 2017 and July 16, 2019 to consider being tested for blood-borne infections, as a precautionary measure.

In 2019, a serious lapse in infection prevention and control (IPAC) practices at Kawartha Endodontics was identified by PPH. Public Health Ontario conducted its own IPAC risk assessment and verified these findings. As IPAC lapses may pose a risk of transmission of blood-borne viruses and bacteria, Dr. Rita Kilislian, the owner of Kawartha Endodontics, was ordered to provide contact information for patients who had received treatment between January 1, 2017 and July 16, 2019 so they could receive information on obtaining testing for blood-borne illnesses. This Order has been upheld by the Health Services Appeal and Review Board, the Superior Court of Justice and the Divisional Court. Both the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada have declined to review the Order.

Yesterday, PPH was made aware that certain patients of Kawartha Endodontics have received the attached letter. The letter does not comply with the Order and contains information which is false and misleading. PPH is therefore alerting the public to this issue.

“Under Ministry of Health directives and protocols, patients have the right to be made aware of serious IPAC lapses in clinics such as Kawartha Endodontics. PPH is mandated to uphold these directives and protocols but, since 2019 and despite a further Court Order issued on August 16, 2024, Kawartha Endodontics has refused to provide the information needed to contact patients directly”, says Dr. Thomas Piggott, Medical Officer of Health and CEO of Peterborough Public Health. “Without proper notification, patients are left without the information they need to make informed decisions for their own health care”.

If you were a patient at the clinic and received treatment between January 1, 2017 and July 16, 2019, please visit Peterborough Public Health’s website at [www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics](http://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics) to

download and print a copy of the patient letter for their health care provider and laboratory requisition. More information, including the IPAC Lapse Report, fact sheets regarding hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV, a detailed question and answer section related to this IPAC lapse and the various Court decisions, is available on Peterborough Public Health's website at [www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics](http://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/IPACLapseKawarthaEndodontics).

Previous public notification can be found at <https://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/ipac-lapse-at-kawartha-endodontics-in-peterborough/>

-30-

**For further information, please contact:**

Media Relations

[media@peterboroughpublichealth.ca](mailto:media@peterboroughpublichealth.ca)



705-750-0700  
Emergency 705-750-1469



425 Water Street • Suite 200  
Peterborough, ON K9H 3L9



info@kawarthaendo.com  
ritaendo.com/endodontist-in-peterborough



## Important Information for Our Valued Patients

Dear Beloved and Valued Patient of Dr. Rita Kilislian,

I hope this letter finds you well. As you are aware, I stand behind my practice, its safety and compliance to all regulatory frameworks and protocols. I stand behind my team and their competence. Most of them have worked with me going on two decades since I became a member of this community.

I am writing to you today regarding some serious matters that I believe warrant your attention and careful consideration. Attached to this letter, you will find relevant documents that provide further context to the issues discussed herein.

Nearly a decade ago, in 2016, I became involved in a legal dispute with certain medical officers of health, who made negligent and malicious allegations against me. I am grateful to share that the outcome of that matter was favourable, as the tribunals found in my favour. Enclosed, you will find a related decision, which supports my position and may clarify my circumstances for you. A previous decision referenced RK v RK further solidifies the complainants lack of understanding of the science behind the frivolous allegations they made.

However, the situation took an alarming turn when, following the tribunal's decision, a nurse associated with these medical officers unlawfully trespassed on my property. This act was characterized as criminal misconduct, defamation, and raised serious questions about the professional conduct of these individuals. I note these certain individuals and their lawless actions are not representative or indicative of the good work done by other caring public health workers. Regrettably, rather than addressing the unlawful actions of these individuals, a lawyer retained by them publicly acknowledged that the information presented to the tribunal was both perjured and fraudulent but only did so after they had mislead the tribunal with perjured testimony. Unfortunately, this occurs within a legal framework that allows such behavior when it is done under the guise of client instructions.

In a troubling turn of events, this same lawyer subsequently obtained a court order requiring me to turn over your name to public health authorities so that you may consult your family doctors to determine if testing is necessary. I view this order grounded in false information as harassment directed at both my patients and myself, lacking any legitimate purpose. I understand that this may raise concerns for you, and I leave it to you to determine how you wish to proceed in light of this information.

To apologize for any inconvenience this situation may have caused you, I have arranged for a credit of \$50 at the [REDACTED]. This credit is a small gesture of appreciation for your continued trust and support. I invite you to visit the store and select anything you would like within the next 30 days expiring October 31st, 2024.

Thank you for taking the time to review this important information. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Warm regards,

*Dr. Rita Kilislian*

Dr. Rita Kilislian

Attachments: ICRC DECISION G190067.pdf