

CAYMAN ISLANDS



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CODE OF ETHICS & STANDARDS OF PRACTICE
CAYMAN ISLANDS PHARMACY COUNCIL

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Codes of Standards for Professional Practice (The Code)

PREAMBLE

The practice of Pharmacy is a profession dedicated to the service of public health. It imposes upon its practitioners the responsibility of observing the canons of professional conduct.

Pharmacists are health professionals who assist individuals in making the best use of medications. This Code, prepared by the Pharmacy Council, is intended to state publicly the principles that form the fundamental basis of the roles and responsibilities of pharmacists. These principles, based on moral obligations and virtues, are established to guide pharmacists in relationships with patients, health professionals, and society.

The pharmacist is obligated to serve the best interests of the public and of the profession, and enhance public esteem of the profession.

"The Code" is made pursuant to the Health Practice Law (2005 Revision) (the Law).

Breach of any Code below can be interpreted as Professional misconduct and will subject the violator to any or all of the following penalties as outlined in the Law a) Suspension and /or revocation of license to practice Pharmacy in the Cayman Islands. b) right to censure the pharmacist, c) impose conditions on the pharmacist.

CODE ONE

The pharmacist establishes and maintains a unique relationship with each patient that is based on an ethical covenant. The word "covenant" means that pharmacists have moral obligations in return for the trust given them by society. Pharmacists encourage shared responsibility for adherence to medication regimens and achieving desired drug therapy outcomes. This principle implies that the best pharmaceutical service, no matter how provided, occurs where the opportunity exists for direct patient contact between patient and pharmacist.

CODE TWO

The pharmacist actively promotes the wellbeing of every patient in a caring, compassionate manner. The patient's wellbeing is at the centre of the pharmacist's professional and business practices. This principle ensures that no patient shall be deprived of pharmaceutical services because of the personal convictions or, religious beliefs of a pharmacist. Where such circumstances occur, the pharmacist refers the patient to another pharmacist who can meet the patient's needs. The pharmacist exercises his or her professional judgment to ensure that patients' needs are met in situations where emergency services or care may be required.

CODE THREE

The pharmacist preserves the confidentiality of information about individual patients acquired in the course of his or her professional practice and does not divulge this information except where authorized by the patient or required by law. Pharmacists protect their patients by serving them in a private and confidential manner. Pharmacists do not divulge information that identifies the patient; except in instances where there is a compelling need, in the pharmacist's professional judgment, to share information in order to protect the patient or another person from harm, or where authorized by the patient or required by law.

CODE FOUR

The pharmacist respects the autonomy, individuality and dignity of each patient. Pharmacists acknowledge the right to self-determination and recognize individual self-worth by encouraging patients to participate in decisions about their health. Pharmacists respect personal and cultural differences, and do not discriminate against any patient for reasons of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, family status or handicap.

CODE FIVE

The pharmacist acts with honesty and integrity. Pharmacists never knowingly condone the dispensing, promoting or distributing of drugs or medical devices which are not of good quality. Pharmacists do not participate in any promotional methods or campaigns which encourage the inappropriate use of medicines or in any professional or business dealings which are not marked by honesty and integrity.

CODE SIX

Pharmacists shall observe the law and conduct themselves in a manner that entitles them to the respect and confidence of the public. Pharmacists shall report to the proper authority without fear or favour, any unethical or illegal conduct which may be encountered within the profession.

CODE SEVEN

The pharmacist continuously improves his or her professional competence and strives to enhance the quality of pharmaceutical service and care provided by the profession. Pharmacists take responsibility for assurance of their own competence, and strive always to perfect and enhance their professional knowledge. Pharmacists further develop the quality of pharmaceutical service and care provided to the public through association with organizations whose mandates include this goal.

CODE EIGHT

The pharmacist collaborates with other health care professionals to achieve the best possible outcomes for the patient. Pharmacists understand the individual roles and contributions of other health care professionals and consult or refer where appropriate. Pharmacists also acknowledge that colleagues and other health care professionals may differ in the beliefs and values they apply to the care of the patient. Pharmacists do not participate in any promotional methods or campaigns which undermine the exercise of professional judgment by the pharmacist or any other health care professional.

CODE NINE

The pharmacist advocates for health promotion at the individual, community and societal levels. Pharmacists have a primary obligation to promote the health of individuals. This obligation can be extended beyond the individual to the community, and society as a whole. Pharmacists engage in dialogue with patients, provide public education to community groups and seek opportunities to advocate for health promotion to benefit society as a whole.

CODE TEN

The pharmacist promotes the appropriate utilization of health care resources. Pharmacists promote the use of cost-effective therapies and discourage the purchase or use of unnecessary products or quantities.

CODE ELEVEN

Pharmacists act in accordance with the highest professional standards when carrying out their duties and do not accept employment where their ability to do so may be compromised. Pharmacists in control of a pharmacy practice as owner, manager or in-charge pharmacist, ensure that there are no conditions which compromise another pharmacist's ability to practice in accordance with high professional standards and exercise sound professional judgment.