



Code of Ethics

Preamble

It shall be the obligation of a pharmacist always to maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and to practice the profession in the best interest of the public health. In order to preserve the dignity and the integrity of the profession of pharmacy and define its obligations to the public, the members of the California Pharmacists Association have adopted the following rules of conduct.

SECTION 1

A pharmacist should hold the health and safety of patients to be of first consideration; a pharmacist should render to each patient the full measure of his or her ability as an essential health practitioner.

SECTION 2

A pharmacist should never knowingly condone the dispensing, promoting or distributing of drugs or medical devices or assist therein, which are not of good quality, which do not meet standards required by law or which lack therapeutic value for the patient.

SECTION 3

A pharmacist should always strive to perfect and enlarge his or her professional knowledge. A pharmacist should utilize and make available this knowledge as may be required in accordance with his or her best professional judgment.

SECTION 4

A pharmacist has the duty to observe the law, to uphold the dignity and honor of the profession, and to accept its ethical principles. A pharmacist should not engage in any activity that will bring discredit to the profession and should expose, without fear or favor, illegal or unethical conduct in the profession.

SECTION 5

A pharmacist should seek at all times only fair and reasonable remuneration for his or her services. A pharmacist should never agree to or participate in transactions with practitioners of other health professions or any person under which fees are divided or which may cause financial or other exploitation in connection with the rendering of professional services.

SECTION 6

A pharmacist should respect the confidential and personal nature of professional records; except where the best interest of the patient requires or the law demands, the pharmacist should not disclose such information to anyone without proper patient authorization.

SECTION 7

A pharmacist should not agree to practice under terms or conditions which tend to interfere with or impair the proper exercise of professional judgment and skill, which tend to cause a deterioration of the quality of service or which require consent to unethical conduct.

SECTION 8

A pharmacist should strive to provide information to patients regarding professional services truthfully, accurately and fully and should avoid misleading patients regarding the nature, cost or value of the pharmacist's professional services.

SECTION 9

A pharmacist should associate with organizations having for their objective the betterment of the profession of pharmacy; a pharmacist should contribute of his or her time and funds to carry on the work of these organizations.