

NATIONAL BOARD OF REGISTRATION

The Committee for the Accreditation of Medical Illustration Practitioners

STATEMENT OF CODE OF CONDUCT WITH DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

The purpose of this Statement is to enable the Board of Registration to fulfil its obligation under the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Committee for the Accreditation of Medical Illustration Practitioners to promote the highest standards of professional conduct.

The Board of Registration brings to the notice of all registered medical illustration practitioners that in its view failure to observe the requirements set out below would be considered a breach of the Code of Conduct.

In preparing a Code of Conduct for the profession the Board has considered the underlying principle of such a self-imposed code of ethics which is intended to establish the relationship between the professional person and those to whom he or she has a professional responsibility. Further, to resolve the conflicts that arise between the interests of patients and the professional person or the community at large. The adoption of such a code of discipline, which involves determining ethical rules and restrictions beyond those required of the ordinary citizen by law, is designed to establish the probity and competence of the profession in the eyes of the public.

In performing this task the Board of Registration has been mindful that it will also be its duty to consider cases in which it is alleged that a practitioner has neglected to observe the Code of Conduct. The Board wishes to emphasise that while the statement cites a number of specific instances, every case referred to it will be considered on its merits. Further, registrants are reminded that any action or neglect on the part of a practitioner that the Board considers prejudicial to the spirit of the Code of Conduct, even though the action or neglect is not specifically mentioned in this Statement, shall not preclude the Board from adjudicating the case.

Registrants should be conversant with and have regard for the law that applies in whole or part to the activities of their profession and any code of practice, conduct or ethics that their professional bodies may draw up and to which members are bound to subscribe, in particular:

- a. The Code of Practice in the Confidentiality of Illustrative Clinical Records issued by the Professional Bodies, Regional Health Authorities, Scottish Boards of Health, other health authorities or this Board of Registration.
- b. Acts of Parliament such as the Videorecordings Act (1984), the Protection of Children Act (1978), the Children Act (1989), the Obscene Publications Act (1959), and the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act (1988).
- c. Ability and understanding of emergency aid or resuscitation so as to be able to contain a medical emergency pending the arrival of professional help.

Knowledge and ability in these areas shall be signified by written declaration at the time of registration, together with undertakings to maintain and refresh knowledge of new and current legislation, codes of practice, ethics and emergency techniques.

In the following statements, references to 'him' or 'himself' shall imply neutral gender. The Code of Conduct states that every registrant shall:

- a. Seek to safeguard patients and others, particularly in relation to health and safety.
- b. Fulfil his professional role with integrity, refraining from its misuse to the detriment of patients, employers or professional colleagues.

- c. Exercise his professional judgement, skills and care to the best of his ability;
- d. Treat with discretion, all confidential information relating to patients gained in the practice of his professional work, and never disclose such information, be it in aural, visual, audiovisual, digital, written or verbal form (including the physical material in which that information is contained) to any person, unless it be with the permission of the patient or other person authorised to release it;
- e. Never represent himself to patients or the public as being skilled in medical diagnosis or of being capable of giving a professional opinion on clinical signs, symptoms, prognosis or treatment or other relevant information conveyed by illustrative clinical records;
- f. Act in good faith towards those with whom he stands in professional relationship and conduct himself so as to uphold the reputation of his profession.

Disciplinary procedures will be implemented in the event of a practitioner allegedly acting in breach of this code or, alternatively, being subject to any of the following.

- a. Dismissal from his post.
- b. Not declaring conviction of a criminal offence.
- c. Be the subject of a complaint by a member of the public.
- d. Be the subject of a complaint from his Professional Body Council, submitted to the CAMIP Disciplinary Committee.

If finding the allegation proven, the Committee for the Accreditation of Medical Illustration Practitioners shall apply such sanction to the individual as circumstances merit, which may include removal of the name of the registrant from its National Register. Practitioners would have the right to appeal in such circumstances.

Disciplinary Committee

The Disciplinary Committee of CAMIP (The Committee for the Accreditation of Medical Illustration Practitioners) is an official sub-committee of the Board convened to consider any alleged breach in the Code of Conduct by a registrant.

The Disciplinary Committee is comprised of one Board member from each of the constituent professional bodies including the incumbent Chairman.

The Board at its Annual General Meeting appoints committee members.

The Committee may invite other persons to attend referral meetings at its discretion.

Revised April 2004

Raymond R. Phillips, Hon.FRPS, FBIPP, MIMI, RMIP
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