

ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND AUDIOLOGY INCORPORATED (ANZAI)
CODE OF ETHICS
Amended August 2012

Preamble

- a) This Code of Ethics specifies standards of integrity and ethical principles that allow for the proper discharge of Audiometrists' responsibilities to those served.
- b) This Code of Ethics sets forth the fundamental Principles and Rules considered essential to this purpose as they relate to responsibility to persons served, to the public, and to the profession of Audiology.
- c) Principles of Ethics, aspirational and inspirational in nature, form the underlying moral basis for the Code of Ethics.
- d) Any action that violates the spirit and purpose of this Code shall be considered unethical.
- e) Individuals shall observe these Principles as affirmative obligations under all conditions of professional activity and on becoming a member (of all classes): Senior member, Full Member, Provisional Member, Associate Member or Honorary Member of ANZAI, agree to abide by the ANZAI Rules and Code of Ethics.
- f) Rules of Ethics are specific statements of minimally acceptable professional conduct and are applicable to all individuals.
- g) An individual will be in breach of his or her ethical obligations where the Council believes that he or she has acted otherwise than in accordance with the spirit and purpose of a Principle of Ethics and/or a specific Rule of Ethics has been breached.

Principles of Ethics 1

Individuals shall honour their responsibility to hold paramount the welfare of persons they serve professionally.

Rule of Ethics

- a) Individuals shall provide all services competently.
- b) Individuals shall exercise all reasonable precautions to avoid injury to persons in the delivery of professional services.
- c) Individuals shall use every resource, including referral when appropriate, to ensure that high-quality service is provided. Individuals shall not compromise the rights of persons they serve to freely choose the source of services rendered or products dispensed.
- d) Individuals shall not discriminate in the delivery of professional services on the basis of race, gender, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability or general health.
- e) Individuals shall fully inform the persons they serve of the nature and possible effects of services rendered and products dispensed.
- f) Individuals shall evaluate the effectiveness of services rendered and of products dispensed and shall provide services or dispense products only when benefit can reasonably be expected.
- g) Individuals shall not guarantee the results of any treatment or procedure, directly or by implication; however, they may make a reasonable statement of prognosis.
- h) Individuals shall not evaluate or treat hearing disorders solely by correspondence. Products associated with professional practice must be dispensed to the client as part of a programme of comprehensive rehabilitative care.
- i) Individuals shall maintain adequate records of professional services rendered and products dispensed and shall allow access to these records to appropriately authorized persons.
- j) Individuals shall not reveal, without authorization as stipulated under the Privacy Act 1996, any professional or personal information about the person served professionally, unless required by law to do so, or unless doing so is necessary to protect the welfare of the person or the community.

- k) Individuals shall charge only for services rendered or products dispensed. They shall not misrepresent, in any fashion, services rendered or products dispensed. For the purpose of this Code of Ethics, misrepresentation includes any untrue statements or statements made that are likely to mislead. Misrepresentation also includes the failure to state any information that is material and that ought, in fairness, to be considered.
- l) Individuals shall inform those served of professional fees and charges in advance of rendering services or dispensing products. Such fees and/or charges shall not be excessive in relation to the services rendered or products dispensed.
- m) Individuals shall use persons in research or as subjects of teaching demonstrations only with their informed consent.
- n) Individuals shall withdraw from professional practice when substance abuse or an emotional or mental disability may adversely affect the quality of the services they render.

Principles of Ethics 2

Individuals shall honour their responsibility to achieve and maintain the highest level of professional competence.

Rules of Ethics

- a) Individuals shall engage in the provision of clinical services only when they hold the appropriate Certificate of Clinical Competence or when they are in the certification process and are supervised by a member who holds the appropriate Certificate of Clinical Competence.
- b) Individuals shall engage in only those aspects of the profession that are within the scope of their competence, considering their level of education, training and experience.
- c) Individuals shall continue their professional development throughout their careers.
- d) Individuals shall delegate the provision of clinical services only to those persons who are certified or to persons in the education or certification process who are appropriately supervised. The provision of support services may be delegated to persons who are neither certified nor in the certification process only when a certificate holder provides appropriate supervision.
- e) Individuals shall prohibit any of their professional staff from providing services that exceed the staff member's level of education, training, and experience.
- f) Individuals shall ensure that all equipment used in the provision of services is in good working order and is properly calibrated with a current Certificate of Calibration.

Principles of Ethics 3

Individuals shall honour their responsibility to the public by promoting public understanding of the profession by supporting the development of services designed to fulfil the unmet needs of the public, and by providing accurate information in all communication involving any aspect of the profession.

Rules of Ethics

- a) Individuals shall not misrepresent their credentials, competence, education, training or experience.
- b) Individuals shall not misrepresent diagnostic information, services rendered, or products dispensed, or engage in any scheme or artifice to defraud in connecting with obtaining payment or reimbursement for such services.
- c) Individuals' statements to the public shall provide accurate information about the nature and management of hearing disorders, about the profession, and about professional services.
- d) Individuals' statements to the public such as advertising, announcing, reporting research results, and promoting products shall not contain misrepresentations.

Principles of Ethics 4

Individuals shall honour their responsibility to provide the highest standard of independent professional service. Ethics define important social interests which a profession assumes the responsibility to serve, and that require an independence from the effects of commercial pressures.

Rules of Ethics

- a) Individuals must not accept compensation in any form from a manufacturer or supplier of professionally related products for recommending any particular product knowingly less suited than another.
- b) Individuals must not give or receive any commission for arranging a consultation with other professionals.
- c) Individuals shall not participate in professional activities that constitute a conflict of interest.

- d) Individuals may display their membership status only when a Senior Member or Full Member.

Principles of Ethics 5

Individuals shall honour their responsibilities to the profession and their relationships with colleagues, students, and members of allied professions. Individuals shall uphold the dignity and autonomy of the profession, maintain harmonious inter-professional and intra-professional relationships, and accept the profession's self-imposed standards.

Rules of Ethics

- a) Individuals shall prohibit anyone under their supervision from engaging in any practice that violates the Code of Ethics.
- b) Individuals shall not engage in dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or any form of conduct that adversely reflects on the profession or on the individual's fitness to serve persons professionally.
- c) Individuals shall assign credit only to those who have contributed to a publication, presentation, or product. Credit shall be assigned in proportion to the contribution and only with the contributor's consent.
- d) Individuals' statements to colleagues about professional services, research results, and products shall contain no misrepresentations.
- e) Individuals shall conduct themselves in their relationships with each other, and in relation to professional issues, in such a fashion as to not bring themselves or their colleagues into professional disrepute.
- f) Individuals shall not provide professional services without exercising independent professional judgement, regardless of referral source or prescription.
- g) Individuals who have reason to believe that the Code of Ethics has been violated should be referred to the Ethics Committee.
- h) Individuals shall co-operate fully with the Ethics Committee in its investigation and adjudication of matters related to this Code of Ethics.
- i) Individuals shall not discriminate in their relationships with colleagues, students, and members of allied professions on the basis of race, gender, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or general health.