

# CODE of CONDUCT, PERFORMANCE and ETHICS for ORTHOPAEDIC PRACTITIONERS

*Revised ~ December 2010*

The BOA Sub-Committee on Casting Techniques issues this voluntary code of professional conduct.

Provided for the guidance and advice of all Orthopaedic Practitioners.  
The code will be the subject of periodic review.

It is expected that Orthopaedic Practitioners will recognise this as their responsibility as well as the BOA Sub-Committee on Casting Techniques that the relevance of the code of professional practice is reviewed when necessary. The BOA Sub-Committee welcomes any suggestions and comments relating to review and such comments should be addressed to:

The Chairman  
BOA Sub-Committee on Casting Techniques  
British Orthopaedic Association  
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PE

The purpose of this code is to enable the BOA Sub-Committee to promote high standards of professional conduct by holders of the BCC (the British Casting Certificate, validated by the British Orthopaedic Association and the Association of Orthopaedic Practitioners and supported by the Society of Orthopaedic and Trauma Nursing of the Royal College of Nursing).

These standards are required not solely for the protection of the public, but also for the benefit and development of the casting services.

**Each registered Orthopaedic Practitioner is personally accountable for their practice and shall keep standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics:**

## CONDUCT

- Undertake Continuing Professional Development and maintain registration with the British Orthopaedic Association by recertifying by every 3 years.
- promote and maintain the highest possible personal conduct and professional standards for the purpose of delivering the highest possible standard of quality care in the best interest of the patient and user groups
- never pass on any confidential information obtained during the course of work without the consent of the patient or person entitled to act on his/her behalf
- report to an appropriate person any circumstances in which safe and proper care for patients cannot be provided
- uphold the reputation of the profession by acting with integrity and honesty at all times, taking care when using electronic media such as email, social networking sites or web-based notice boards
- recognise and respect the dignity of each patient and care for them irrespective of their ethnic origin, personal attributes, religious beliefs, the nature of their health problems or any other factor

## PERFORMANCE

- keep your knowledge and skills up to date
- provide and maintain a high standard of care to all
- carry out all care episodes in such a way as to promote and protect the rights of patients
- informed consent must be obtained before you give any treatment or care
- keep accurate patient, client and user records
- deal safely with the risk of infection and all other clinical practice risks carrying out risk assessment where appropriate
- communicate effectively and share your knowledge, skill and expertise with other members of the team
- at all times let no action or omission on your part place at risk the care afforded to any patient
- recognise any limitations of competence and decline any duties unless trained and deemed competent to perform them in a skilled, safe manner. Refer if necessary to another professional
- assist in the development of your colleagues' professional competence in accordance with their needs and the needs of the service within the context of the individual's knowledge
- be aware of the value of and have respect for all healthcare professionals associated with the provision of care
- if you believe your performance or judgement is affected in any way, you should limit your work or stop practicing and seek appropriate advice

## ETHICS

- duties should be carried out in a professional and ethical manner promoting equality and valuing diversity
- be trustworthy and honest
- refuse gifts, favours or hospitality that might be interpreted as an attempt to gain preferential treatment.
- inform an appropriate person or authority of any conscientious objection which may be relevant to professional practice
- uphold and enhance the good reputation of the profession

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