

Excerpts from the AAPM Code of Ethics, Professional Policy AP-128-A:

Section 2 contains the Principles; these establish the framework for the Members' ethical conduct. The ten Principles in the AAPM Code of Ethics are based on core values drawn from the Medical Ethics community such as beneficence, autonomy, justice, prudence, and honesty. Every Member's professional conduct should be consistent with these Principles. The Principles are equal in significance and are ordered to follow a logical progression from consideration of the patient, to relationships with colleagues, to conduct within the broader profession.

SECTION 2. PRINCIPLES

- I. Members must hold as paramount the best interests of the patient under all circumstances.
- II. Members must strive to provide the best quality patient care and ensure the safety, privacy, and confidentiality of patients and research participants.
- III. Members must act with integrity in all aspects of their work.
- IV. Members must interact in an open, collegial, and respectful manner amongst themselves and in relation to other professionals, including those in training, and safeguard their confidences and privacy.
- V. Members must strive to be impartial in all professional interactions, and must disclose and formally manage any real, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest.
- VI. Members must strive to continuously maintain and improve their knowledge and skills while encouraging the professional development of their colleagues and of those under their supervision.
- VII. Members must operate within the limits of their knowledge, skills, and available resources in the provision of healthcare. Members must enable practices in which patients are provided the levels of medical physicist expertise and case-specific attention as appropriately supports the modalities of their care.
- VIII. Members must adhere to the legal and regulatory requirements that apply to the practice of their profession.
- IX. Members must support the ideals of justice and fairness in the provision of healthcare and allocation of limited healthcare resources.
- X. Members are professionally responsible and accountable for their practice, attitudes, and actions, including inactions and omissions.

Section 3 contains Guidelines for how to interpret the Principles in the Member's professional activities. This section provides guidance, and should not be perceived as a set of rules. The guidance is organized in subsections by relevance to specific professional settings. Subsection I [General Guidelines for Professional Conduct] applies to all Members regardless of practice setting and should be read and internalized by all Members. Subsections II through V provide additional guidance applicable to specific settings.