CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

for the Guidance of Registered Pharmacists in Hong Kong



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The code can be downloaded from the website of the Pharmacy and Poisons Board of Hong Kong: 本守則可在香港藥劑業及毒藥管理局網頁下載: http://www.pobhk.org.hk

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TABLE OF CONTENTS 目錄

1	INTF 引言	RODUCTION	2
2	PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT 專業行為操守		
	2.1	Relationship with the General Public and Patients 與公眾及病人的關係	3
	2.2	Relationship with the Pharmacy Profession and Fellow Pharmacists 與藥劑專業及藥劑師同業的關係	4
	2.3	Relationship with Members of other Healthcare Professionals 與其他醫護專業人員的關係	6
	2.4	Professional Autonomy and Conflict of Interests 專業自主及利益衝突	7
	2.5	Confidentiality and Privacy 保密及私隱	8
3	EXAMPLES OF ORDINANCES 參老條例		9







1

INTRODUCTION

Pharmacists are healthcare professionals who provide patient-centered care to enable patients and the public to maintain good health and high quality of life through use of medications in a responsible, safe and effective manner.

This Code aims to provide guiding principles on the roles and responsibilities of registered pharmacists and to provide guidance to the profession in respect of the relationship between a registered pharmacist and his/her stakeholders including patients, health professionals, and the society at large. This Code has been endorsed by the Pharmacy and Poisons Board of Hong Kong ("the Board") which is responsible for the registration of and taking disciplinary actions against pharmacists under the Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance (Cap. 138).

All registered pharmacists are advised to study this Code carefully to avoid the risk of inadvertently transgressing this Code which may otherwise lead to disciplinary action by the Board.

The question of whether a particular course of conduct amounts to unprofessional conduct and the gravity of the unprofessional conduct or conviction that gives rise to a disciplinary inquiry are matters which the Board will have to determine in each individual disciplinary case on its own facts. The Board, owing to its quasi-judicial function, is not able to advise individuals in respect of these matters. Persons who require advice on these matters are advised to consult their professional associations, senior colleagues of the profession or their lawyers.

藥劑師屬醫護專業人員,提供 以病人為本的治理服務,使病 人及公眾得以通過負責任、安 全及有效地使用藥物,維持良 好健康及高生活質素。

所有註冊藥劑師均應細閱本守 則,以免不慎違反本守則,導 致管理局採取紀律處分。

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT 專業行為操守

2.1 Relationship with the General Public and Patients

- 2.1.1 A registered pharmacist should take the care, well-being and safety of the patients and the public as the first concern in his/her practice.
- 2.1.2 A registered pharmacist should make use of the resources available and utilize his/her professional knowledge to provide support to patients and the public on the safe and appropriate use of pharmaceutical products.
- 2.1.3 A registered pharmacist shall not supply any pharmaceutical product which, he/she knows or has reason to believe, is intended to be used in a manner that would be detrimental to health.
- 2.1.4 A registered pharmacist should provide accurate, factual, relevant and independent information which is appropriate for and not misleading to patients and the public.
- 2.1.5 The professional judgment of a registered pharmacist shall be free of bias and discrimination and shall not be affected by personal or organizational interests.
- 2.1.6 A registered pharmacist should share the responsibility in promoting the health and wellbeing of the community.

2.1 與公眾及病人的關係

- 2.1.1 註冊藥劑師在執業時,應以 病人及公眾得到治理,其福 祉及安全得到照顧,為首要 關注事項。
- 2.1.2 註冊藥劑師應善用現有資源 和運用其專業知識,就安全 及適當使用藥劑製品,向病 人及公眾提供支援。
- 2.1.3 註冊藥劑師不得供應任何明 知或有理由相信擬以對健康 有害的方式使用的藥劑製 品。
- 2.1.4 註冊藥劑師應提供準確、有 事實根據、相關及獨立的資 料,對病人及公眾而言份屬 恰當,且不具誤導性。
- 2.1.5 註冊藥劑師的專業判斷應不 偏不倚,而且不受個人或機 構利益影響。
- 2.1.6 註冊藥劑師應共同承擔促進 社區健康及福祉的責任。

2.2 Relationship with the Pharmacy Profession and Fellow Pharmacists

- 2.2.1 A registered pharmacist should uphold the honour and reputation of the pharmacy profession and act with honesty and integrity to maintain public trust and confidence in the pharmacy profession.
- 2.2.2 A registered pharmacist should maintain a high standard of professional conduct and always exercise his/her professional judgment in his/her practice.
- 2.2.3 A registered pharmacist should strive to provide and maintain pharmacy services at a high standard of professional competence.
- 2.2.4 A registered pharmacist is encouraged to keep abreast of the progress of relevant professional knowledge and skills so as to maintain a high standard of professional competence.
- 2.2.5 A registered pharmacist should keep him/herself up-to-date and shall comply with the laws that govern practice relating to his/her professional duties.
- 2.2.6 A registered pharmacist should share his/her knowledge, experience and skills to nurture future and new members of the profession.

2.2 與藥劑專業及藥劑師同業的 關係

- 2.2.1 註冊藥劑師應維護藥劑專業 的信譽及聲望,行事誠實持 正,以維持公眾對藥劑專業 的信任及信心。
- 2.2.2 註冊藥劑師應維持高水準的 專業行為,在執業期間, 時刻行使其專業判斷。
- 2.2.3 註冊藥劑師應致力以高水準 的專業能力,提供和維持藥 劑服務。
- 2.2.4 註冊藥劑師宜掌握相關專業 知識及技能的最新發展, 以維持高水準的專業能力。
- 2.2.5 註冊藥劑師應了解規管與其 專業職務有關行為的最新法 例,並須遵從該等法例。
- 2.2.6 註冊藥劑師應分享其知識、 經驗及技能,培育未來及新 進的藥劑專業人員。

- 2.2.7 A registered pharmacist may, when considered necessary, delegate to the person who has the qualifications, experience, knowledge and skills his/her duties to provide patient care.
- 2.2.8 A registered pharmacist shall ensure that his/her professional capacity, if referred to in the promotion of any products or services, will be referred to in such a manner that does not mislead the public.
- 2.2.9 A registered pharmacist shall not use unsubstantiated title in carrying out his/her professional duties.

- 2.2.7 註冊藥劑師如認為有需要, 可將其為病人提供治理的職 責,轉授具備有關資格、經 驗、知識及技能的人。
- 2.2.8 註冊藥劑師須確保,其專業 身分如在任何產品或服務推 廣中被提述,則提述的方式 不致誤導公眾。
- 2.2.9 註冊藥劑師在履行其專業職務時,不得使用無法證實的名銜。

2.3 Relationship with Members of other Healthcare Professionals

- 2.3.1 A registered pharmacist should collaborate and communicate with other healthcare professionals effectively to optimise patient care.
- 2.3.2 Information related to pharmaceutical products provided by a registered pharmacist to other healthcare professionals should be unbiased and evidence-based.
- 2.3.3 A registered pharmacist should acknowledge and respect the contribution of other healthcare professionals involved in the care of patients and the public.

2.3 與其他醫護專業人員的關係

- 2.3.1 註冊藥劑師應與其他醫護專業人員有效協作和溝通,為 病人提供最適切的治理。
- 2.3.2 註冊藥劑師向其他醫護專業 人員所提供有關藥劑製品的 資料,應不偏不倚,並以實 據為本。
- 2.3.3 註冊藥劑師應承認並尊重其 他參與治理病人及公眾的醫 護專業人員所作貢獻。

2.4 Professional Autonomy and Conflict of Interest

- 2.4.1 A registered pharmacist should strive to uphold his/her professional autonomy.
- 2.4.2 A registered pharmacist should, whenever appropriate, declare any personal or professional interests to avoid conflicts of interest. He/she shall not ask for or accept personal benefits that may adversely affect his/her professional judgment.

2.4 專業自主及利益衝突

- 2.4.1 註冊藥劑師應致力維護其專 業自主。
- 2.4.2 註冊藥劑師應按情況申報任何個人或專業利益,以免出現利益衝突。註冊藥劑師不得索取或接受可能對其專業判斷造成不良影響的個人利益。

2.5 Confidentiality and Privacy

- 2.5.1 A registered pharmacist shall not disclose confidential information without patients' consent, except where he/she is legally permitted to do so for the benefit and interest of patients.
- 2.5.2 A registered pharmacist shall use information obtained in the course of professional practice only for the purposes for which it was given or other purposes which are lawful.
- 2.5.3 A registered pharmacist shall provide the appropriate level of privacy to patients requiring and receiving care from him/her.
- 2.5.4 A registered pharmacist shall take care to protect patients'/clients' anonymity and privacy when patients'/clients' personal information is required for purposes of teaching, research or quality assurance procedures.

2.5 保密及私隱

- 2.5.1 註冊藥劑師在未經病人同意的情況下,不得披露機密資料,但如為了病人的利益而法律上容許這樣做,則屬例外。
- 2.5.2 註冊藥劑師在專業執業過程 中取得的資料,只可用作當 初提供該等資料的目的,或 其他合法目的。
- 2.5.3 註冊藥劑師須為需要和接受 其治理的病人,提供適度的 私隱保障。
- 2.5.4 當須使用病人/服務對象的個人資料進行教學、研究或質素保證程序,註冊藥劑師須謹慎地保密病人/服務對象的身分,以及保護其私隱。

3 EXAMPLES OF ORDINANCES 參考條例

- Antibiotics Ordinance (Cap. 137)
 《抗生素條例》(第137章)
- ii. Chinese Medicine Ordinance (Cap. 549) 《中醫藥條例》(第 549 章)
- iii. Dangerous Drugs Ordinance (Cap. 134) 《危險藥物條例》(第 134 章)
- iv. Pharmacy and Poisons Ordinance (Cap. 138) 《藥劑業及毒藥條例》(第138章)
- v. Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) 《公共衞生及市政條例》(第132章)
- vi. Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362) 《商品説明條例》(第 362 章)
- vii. Undesirable Medical Advertisements Ordinance (Cap. 231) 《不良廣告 (醫藥) 條例》(第 231 章)

(Some examples only and the above list is by no means exhaustive) (以上選例只是一些條例的例子,並非詳盡無遺)

