

Rules of professional ethics of healthcare professionals



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The rules of professional ethics of medical workers have been approved by the decision N 182-N of February 17, 2022, of the Government of the Republic of Armenia.

GENERAL RULES OF ETHICS OF MEDICAL WORKERS

This decision defines the rules of professional ethics of medical workers.

Medical workers in all their interventions must:

- respect the dignity of all human beings;
- exercise their profession in accordance with scientific and technical rules and professional principles taking into account the state of science and the patient's specific condition;
- use proportionality and fairness in any intervention and adopting measures to improve the quality of care and services;
- treat with respect the patient's family members, legal representatives, contact person;
- adopt all measures within their competence aimed to improve the quality of care and services;
- be updated both scientifically and technically and exercise their profession diligently and technically in accordance with the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Armenia. The actions of the medical worker cannot surpass the scope of professional qualification.

RULES OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN MEDICAL WORKERS AND PATIENTS

In their relations with patients, medical workers must:

- take the proper steps to promote health and relieve pain of the patient.
- respect the patient's dignity, physical and mental integrity during all stages of his/her life, as well as the patient's integrity, other rights and fundamental freedoms;
- respect patient's private and family life as well as his/her intimacy, religion, moral, political views or any other views of personal or social nature;
- refrain from judgments about the person's behavior and not impose their own criteria and values;
- use their competencies and skills in the interest and for the good of the patient, refrain from practices that are not justified by the patient's interests or that presuppose or create false needs of consume;
- care for a patient, acting with correction and dedication, to promote or restore health, preserving life and its quality;
- safeguard the rights of the most vulnerable and, in particular, safeguard the rights of the
 - a. children, protecting them from any form of abuse;
 - b. elderly, promoting their physical indepen-

dence, psychic and social and self-care, with the aim of improving their quality of life;

c. people with disabilities.

- exclude discrimination or torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of the patient on any grounds;



RULES OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN MEDICAL WORKERS

Medical workers must exercise their profession in respect with the principles of equality, truth, justice, solidarity, and professional competence.

In particular, medical workers in their relations must:

- respect the rights and legitimate interests of other medical workers;
- proceed with the greatest correctness, urbanity and mutual respect in their reciprocal relationships;
- Demonstrate cooperative behavior and mutual trust in relation to other medical workers;
- not diminish or give negative assessments about colleagues in any other way in order to attract patients;
- have a public and professional behavior appropriate to the honourability of their profession.

RULES OF ETHICS OF MEDICAL WORKERS IN THE AREA OF PUBLIC HEALTH

In the exercise of their profession, medical workers must cooperate for the defense of public health, namely:

- promptly report disease cases to health authorities regarding diseases of mandatory declaration in accordance with the Republic of Armenia legislation;
- provide medical care and professional services in the event of an emergency situation or martial law or state of emergency, without abandoning their patients, whenever requested by the authorities;
- cooperate with the authorities in implementing measures aimed to prevent diseases and other sorts of health behaviors;
- provide information, to the best of their knowledge, to the health authority on the facts and circumstances that may concern health;
- follow the determinations of the health authorities, without prejudice of the compliance with ethical standards.



RULES OF PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN MEDICAL WORKERS AND THIRD PARTIES

During their professional activity, the medical workers may not request or accept offers of any kind from the pharmaceutical industry or other suppliers of clinical material, as well as from any other persons or entities that may directly or indirectly affect the quality and appropriateness of their activity, except in the cases specified by law.



CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- For the purposes of this chapter, a conflict of interest is a situation in which the medical worker's obligation to act in the best interests of the patient is or may be jeopardized or otherwise affected by the private relationship between the health care provider and his or her affiliates and third parties. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term interconnected person is used within the meaning of Article 37, Part 5 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia "On Medical Care and Services to the Population".
- The medical workers are obliged to exclude conflicts of interest while performing their professional duties.

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