



Code of Ethics

Policy Statement

The Doctors Pain Clinic recognizes the many facets and problems that pain patients experience. For this reason The Doctors Pain Clinic endorses and reaffirms the benefit of the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary commitment with professionals from a variety of disciplines can make to the field of pain management.

The conduct of Practioners employed by the Doctors Pain Clinic shall be consistent with all applicable local, state and federal regulations, and with codes of conduct as established by the individual's primary discipline. Practioners employed by the Doctors Pain Clinic are committed to increasing their knowledge of the mechanisms of pain and its respondent behavior. Every effort will be made to safeguard the health and welfare of patients who seek services.

Professional Conduct

The Practioners are obligated to maintain their skill competency such that it conforms to the standards of conduct both to the individual's community, practice and discipline. The treatment of pain and the implementation of a patient's plan require that the therapeutic effort be multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary. Practioners will conduct their professional behavior so that it facilitates the services of all team members for the maximum benefit of the patient.

Responsibility

The Practioners shall be responsible to determine that standards are applied evenly and fairly to all individuals who receive services. Individuals who are employed by an institution, agency or clinic have the responsibility to be alert for institutional pressure which may be counter to the best interest of the patient and shall make every effort to improve those conditions.

Practioners provide thorough documentation and timely feedback to members of the team, employers, carriers and other interested parties in order to assure coordinated, managed care. All reports will be objective and based upon an independent professional opinion within the Practioner's expertise. Practioners will refrain from providing services which are counter to the ethical standards of their discipline or which would be a violation of standards established by applicable regulatory boards governing service to pain patients.

Confidentiality

Practioners are obligated to safeguard information obtained in the course of their involvement with their patients. Information acquired during the scope of practice may routinely be released only with the patient's written permission. In emergency situations when there exists a clear and imminent danger to the health, safety or welfare of the patient or to others, or when such release required by a court order or subpoena, a practioner may release relevant medical information without patient's written permission. Individuals who seek the services of the practioner shall be advised that in some

jurisdictions insurance companies, managed care organizations and regulatory boards may have access to collected information, test results, and opinions. Patients have the privilege, to the extent that it is feasible and practical, and when there are no legal or clinical contraindication, to see their medical records at a mutually convenient time for the patient and the practitioner.

Education, Training and Competence

Practitioners shall maintain high standards of professional competence. They shall recognize the limits of their skill and scope of their licensure. They shall offer services consistent with the standards of their profession.

Practitioners have an obligation to accurately represent and disclose their training, education, and experience to the public. Practitioners shall engage in continuing education. Practitioners shall obtain consultations with other providers when indicated, and inform the patient of the likely risks inherent to the proposed approaches, procedures or treatments.

Business Procedures

Practitioners will abide by all prevailing community standards. They will adhere to all local, state, and federal laws regulating business practice. Competitive advertising must be honest, factual, and accurate. Such advertising must avoid making exaggerated claims. Practitioners shall not enter into arrangements in which fees are split or exchanged, or where a conflict of interest or undue influence about services rendered would exist. Practitioners shall engage in behavior that conforms to high standards of ethical, legal and moral behavior. Practitioners shall never engage in sexual contact with their patients.