



Republic of the Philippines
Professional Regulation Commission
Manila



PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF PHARMACY
RESOLUTION NO. 23
Series of 2021

**RESOLUTION PROMULGATING AND PRESCRIBING THE
CODE OF ETHICS OF THE PHARMACY PROFESSION**

WHEREAS, Section 9 of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8981 or the PRC Modernization Act of 2000 provides for the following powers, functions and responsibilities of the Professional Regulatory Boards: to regulate the practice of the professions in accordance with the provisions of their respective professional regulatory laws; to monitor the conditions affecting the practice of the profession or occupation and whenever necessary adopt measures as may be deemed proper for the enhancement of the profession or occupation and/or the maintenance of high professional, ethical and technical standards; and to hear and investigate cases arising from violations of their respective laws, the rules and regulations and their Code of Ethics, among others;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 10918, also known as The Philippine Pharmacy Act, is the legal framework that provides for the supervision, control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Section 8 (g) of R.A. No. 10918 states that it is the duty of the Professional Regulatory Board of Pharmacy (Board) to promulgate and prescribe the Pharmacists' Code of Ethics, Code of Technical Standards and Guidelines for the Professional Practice of the Pharmacy Profession, in coordination with the Accredited Professional Organization;

WHEREAS, the Board coordinated and conducted consultations on 18 December 2020, 08 January and 22 January 2021 with its Accredited Integrated Professional Organization (AIPO), the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPHA), thru a Technical Working Group and finalized the Pharmacists' Code of Ethics that is responsive and relevant to the prevailing trends and developments in the pharmacy practice;

WHEREAS, as the AIPO for the pharmacy profession, the PPHA commits to elevate the standards of pharmacy practice in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Pharmacists' Code of Ethics outlines the ethical rules and principles with the end in view of ensuring the safety and interest of the patients and the public, in general. The Code sets forth the professional responsibilities of pharmacists to patients and clients, to the profession, to colleagues in the profession, to allied health professionals, to the society, and to the industry;

WHEREFORE, the Board hereby **RESOLVES**, as it is so **RESOLVED**, to promulgate and prescribe hereunder the Pharmacists' Code of Ethics for the observance of all pharmacists registered with the Board and the Professional Regulation Commission:

CODE OF ETHICS FOR PHARMACISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Article I PREAMBLE

Pharmacists are valued and recognized health professionals who are given the responsibility within the overall health system, mainly to promote safe, effective and responsible use of medicines. Together with other health professionals, they assist patients and those to whom they provide professional services to gain maximum therapeutic benefit from their medicines.

As pharmacy practice is not limited to the provision of direct clinical care, pharmacists also work closely with consumers, patients, carers and other stakeholders in the discovery, development, manufacture and supply management of medicines. They perform technical and leadership roles in education, research, regulations and policy development. Pharmacists help individual, families and communities maintain good health and avoid ill health.

With these professional responsibilities, the pharmacists hereby publicly state, through this Code of Ethics, the principles that form the fundamental basis of the norms and standards in the performance of their duties and responsibilities. These basic principles based on moral obligation and virtues are established to guide the pharmacists in their relationship with and obligation to patients, consumers, carers, health professionals and other partners in particular and with the society in general.

Article II PRINCIPLES

Focus Area: **The Pharmacist's Patients and Clients**

1. A pharmacist places the health and well-being of the individual and the community at the center of professional practice.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist commits to help individual and community to improve self-care and to maintain good health, prevent illness and make the best use of medications. A pharmacist establishes therapeutic relationship to gain trust and confidence of the clients.

2. A pharmacist respects the autonomy and rights of the patient and recognizes cultural differences.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist promotes self-care, decision making in health and rights pertaining to choice of treatment, according to personal, gender, cultural and racial differences.

3. A pharmacist cares for each individual with competence and compassion.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist provides pharmaceutical care and assists patients and clients with compassion.

Focus Area: **The Pharmacy Profession**

1. A pharmacist acts with honesty, integrity and professionalism in her/his relationship with patients, carers and other stakeholders in healthcare.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist builds a trusting relationship with patients, carers and other healthcare professionals with appropriate actions and behaviors; commits to transparency and accountability in all dealings.

2. A pharmacist abides by regulatory requirements, scientific principles, professional practice and ethical standards.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist is responsible for her/his actions and faces consequences when regulatory and scientific standards are not met.

3. A pharmacist is committed to lifelong learning to enhance professional competence.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist ensures that her/his knowledge and skills are continuously updated and upgraded.

4. A pharmacist demonstrates commitment to the development and enhancement of the profession.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist takes leadership roles and involvement in initiatives and programs that are critical to the demands of the profession as it continuously evolves.

Focus Area: **Other Health Professionals**

1. A pharmacist respects and collaborates with other healthcare professionals and colleagues to achieve optimal treatment outcomes for their patients and ensures continuum of care.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist exercises professionalism, diplomacy and tact at all times and recognizes the individual contributions and differences of the members of the team in the patient's continuum of care.

Focus Area: **Professional Business Practices**

1. A pharmacist conducts the business of pharmacy in an ethical and professional manner.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist conducts business practices in the best interest of the patients and clients, respects confidentiality and exercises propriety in communicating information; respects his competitors and their products and services while using her/his time and resources for legitimate business purposes.

Focus Area: **The Society**

1. A pharmacist, in coordination with the government and non-government organizations, actively participates in the formulation and implementation of health care policies, standards and programs designed for the benefit of society.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist takes part in the formulation and development of health policies and standards relevant to the practice of the profession and its proper implementation.

2. A pharmacist advocates equitable distribution of health resources, health promotion, disease prevention and wellness.

Interpretation:

A pharmacist makes available essential medicines and provides cheaper quality alternatives at all times when appropriate, conducts public health education on rational and responsible use of medications and promotes healthier communities.

The Board shall have the power, upon notice and hearing, to revoke or suspend the Certificate of Registration of a registered pharmacist for violation of any provision of this Code of Ethics, conviction of an offense involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction, unprofessionalism, immorality, malpractice, incompetence, gross negligence, or imprudence in the practice of the profession in accordance with the provisions of R.A. No. 10918 and R.A. No. 8981.

This shall take effect immediately after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Let a copy hereof be furnished the UP Law Center.

Done this 22nd day of September, 2021 in the City of Manila, Philippines.


ANTHONY ALDRIN C. SANTIAGO
Officer-in-charge


ADELINA C. ROJO
Member


MILDRED B. OLIVEROS
Member

ATTESTED:


ATTY. OMAIMAH E. GANDAMRA
OIC, PRB Secretariat Division

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
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Date of Effectivity : Immediately

APPROVED:


TEOFILO S. PILANDO, JR.
Chairman


YOLANDA D. REYES
Commissioner


JOSE Y. CUETO, JR.
Commissioner