

Pre-Hospital  
Emergency Care  
Council



Code of Professional Conduct & Ethics

Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council  
(PHECC)

Registrants

## ***Mission Statement***

*“The Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council protects the public by independently specifying, reviewing, maintaining and monitoring standards of excellence for the safe provision of quality pre-hospital emergency care”*

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Council

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### **Version History**

(Please visit the [PHECC website](#) to confirm current version.)

<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>
1	Jun 2008	New policy document
2	Oct 2017	Amended by Council

# Code of Professional Conduct & Ethics

## Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) Registrants

### 1. Uphold and maintain a duty of care to patients and public

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

- 1.1. engage in safe and competent practice,
- 1.2. have the welfare of patients as their primary concern at all times,
- 1.3 only practice in accordance with their status on the PHECC Register and their privileged scope of practice in respect of PHECC Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs),
- 1.4 provide care which could reasonably be expected from someone with a similar level of knowledge, skills, abilities, equal registration status and CPG privileging in similar circumstances,
- 1.5 ensure their competence in the English language to facilitate effective patient communication to enable the registrant to practice safely.

### 2. Treating patients and seeking consent of patient

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

- 2.1 identify themselves by name to patients in their care,
- 2.2 where practicable seek patients' verbal consent prior to care interventions and medication administration,
- 2.3 in emergencies where treatment is necessary to preserve life or to avoid significant deterioration in the patient's health, PHECC-registered practitioners may provide care where consent cannot be obtained.
- 2.4 when practicing will display their current PHECC licence and PIN.

### 3. Maintain high standards of professional accountability

Each PHECC-registered practitioner shall:

#### Education & Training

- 3.1 maintain their skills in line with their status on the Register and their CPG privileged status,
- 3.2 fulfil the Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) requirements of their registered status,
- 3.3 only perform an intervention in which he or she has been adequately educated and trained and is competent in,
- 3.4 familiarise themselves with the current PHECC CPGs appropriate to their status on the Register.

#### Record Keeping

- 3.5 be committed to a high standard of clinical record keeping and data collection,
- 3.6 use the Patient Care Report (PCR) as an account of pre-hospital care provided and an accurate record of the assessment, decisions made, the care delivered and the response to care,
- 3.7 deviations from CPGs should be appropriate to the given clinical situation and documented appropriately.

#### Accountability

- 3.8 report any unprofessional, illegal or unethical conduct on the part of other health care practitioners,
- 3.9 if the practitioner is aware of any personal impairment, report it and seek help,
- 3.10 avoid all conduct likely to bring the profession into disrepute,

3.11 take appropriate action if a situation of abuse of any individual, service or professional in the course of work is identified,

3.12 intern practitioners shall perform interventions only under the clinical lead of a registered practitioner and shall limit such acts to those within their privileged status,

3.13 commit to this code and adhere to it at all times. Failure by a practitioner to comply with this code may constitute an act of professional misconduct and may be referred for investigation in respect of their Fitness to Practise.

#### **4. Co-operation and team work**

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

4.1 respect colleagues and other health professionals,

4.2 identify, and where possible, control risks to other members of the healthcare/rescue team,

4.3 continually evaluate the effectiveness of practice in consultation with other health professionals,

4.4 take an active role with PHECC to guide the emerging profession,

4.5 be committed to co-operating, assisting and coaching of trainees and peers as appropriate.

#### **5. Maintain confidentiality**

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

5.1 maintain strict professional confidentiality with all information acquired in the course of professional duties. Except where necessary to impart health/personal information in the course of duty/continuum of care and/or required by law.

5.2 manage with strict confidentiality all patient records, paper and electronic format

5.3 maintain strict confidentiality when conducting research.

#### **Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics (December 2017)**





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