Document Title: Code of Professional Conduct & Ethics

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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 in that registered practitioners must only practice in accordance with their status on the PHECC Register and their scope of practice
- 1.2 have the welfare of patients as their primary concern at all times
- 1.3 identify themselves by first name to patients in their care
- 1.4 provide care which would be judged against what could reasonably be expected from someone with a similar level of knowledge, skills and abilities when placed in these particular circumstances
- 1.5 assess patients needs and provide, in full, the necessary care management interventions and medication treatment to a high standard
- 1.6 ensure that practice is congruent with the agreed standards PHECC approved Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs)
- 1.7 ensure competence in the English language to facilitate effective patient communication to enable the registrant to practice safely

2. Seek consent of patient

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

- 2.1 where practicable seek patients' verbal consent prior to care management interventions and medication administration
- 2.2 in emergencies where treatment is necessary to preserve life, PHECC-registered practitioners may provide care with implied consent, providing that one can demonstrate that they are acting in the patients' best interests.

3. Maintain high standards of professional accountability

Each PHECC-registered practitioner shall:

Education & Training

- 3.1 maintain their skills in line with the scope of practice relevant to their status on the Register
- 3.2 participate in ongoing CPD requirements of the relevant division on the Register
- 3.3 only perform an intervention in which he or she has been adequately educated and trained and is competent in
- 3.4 keep themselves up-to-date with the current PHECC-approved Clinical Practice Guidelines.

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 a record of clear consecutive evidence of the assessment, decisions made, the care delivered and the response to care.

Accountability

- 3.7 report any unprofessional, illegal or unethical conduct on the part of other health care practitioners
- 3.8 if the practitioner is aware of any personal impairment, report it and seek help
- 3.9 use CPGs as a guide to providing appropriate pre-hospital care; deviations from CPGs should be appropriate to the given clinical situation and appropriately documented
- 3.10 avoid all conduct likely to bring the profession into disrepute
- 3.11 take action if a situation of abuse of any individual, service or professional in the course of work is identified
- 3.12 student and intern practitioners shall perform interventions only under the supervision of a registered practitioner and shall limit such acts to those directly related to his or her education and training and scope of practice
- 3.13 commit to this code and adhere to it at all times. Failure by a practitioner to comply with any conduct determined in this code shall constitute an act of professional misconduct and may be referred for investigation in accordance with Council's Fitness to Practice Rules.

4. Co-operation and team work

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

- 4.1 respect the integrity and experience of 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 mentoring or 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:
 - o necessary to impart health/personal information in the course of duty/continuum of care and/or
 - o required by law.
- 5.2 manage with strict confidentiality all patient records, paper and electronic format
- 5.3 maintain strict confidentiality when conducting research.

