



ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSORS AND CONSULTANTS OF INTEGRATIVE, COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE OF NIGERIA (APCICAM)

CODE OF PRACTICE

This code of practice outlines the ethical and professional standards expected of every member of the Association.

It is designed to protect the public, uphold the integrity of the profession, and guide practitioners in their practice.

Core Principles:

- **Patient/Client Well-being;** The primary concern of APCICAM practitioners is the well-being of their patients/clients.
- **Professionalism;** Practitioners will conduct themselves in a professional manner, maintaining high standards of ethics, competence, and integrity..
- **Competence;** Practitioners will practice within the scope of their training and experience, continually updating their knowledge and skills.
- **Confidentiality;** Practitioners will maintain strict confidentiality regarding patient/client information..
- **Informed Consent;** Practitioners will obtain informed consent from patients/clients before initiating any treatment or intervention.
- **Honesty and Integrity;** Practitioners will be honest and truthful in their interactions with patients/clients, colleagues, and the public.
- **Collaboration;** Practitioners will collaborate with other healthcare providers when appropriate to ensure optimal patient care..

Scope of Practice; Practitioners will clearly define and adhere to the scope of their practice, avoiding overstating the benefits or understating the risks of their treatments.

- **Referrals;** Practitioners will refer patients/clients to other healthcare providers when necessary, ensuring continuity of care..
- **Advertising and Marketing;** Practitioners will engage in truthful and accurate advertising and marketing practices, avoiding misleading claim..
- **Boundaries;** Practitioners will maintain appropriate professional boundaries with patients/clients, avoiding exploitation or abuse of the practitioner-patient relationship.
- **Informed Consent;** Practitioners will provide clear and understandable

information about treatments, including potential benefits, risks, and alternatives.

- **Assessment;** Practitioners will conduct thorough assessments of patients/clients to determine appropriate treatment plans.
- **Treatment Planning;** Practitioners will develop individualized treatment plans based on the patient's/client's needs and goals..
- **Documentation;** Practitioners will maintain accurate and complete records of patient/client care.
- **Confidentiality;** Practitioners will protect the confidentiality of patient/client information in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.
- **Emergency Care;** Practitioners will know when to refer patients/clients to conventional medical care in emergency situations.

Continuing Education::

- Professional Development; Practitioners will engage in ongoing professional development to maintain and enhance their knowledge and skills.
- .The Association will provide opportunities for continuing education and professional development.
- **Licensure and Certification;** Practitioners will comply with all licensing and certification requirements.

Professional Relationships:

- **Respect for Colleagues;** Practitioners will treat colleagues with respect and professionalism.
- **Professional Conduct;** Practitioners will conduct themselves in a manner that upholds the reputation of the profession..

Complaints and Disciplinary Procedures:

- **Complaints;** Practitioners will address patient/client complaints promptly and fairly..
- **Disciplinary Actions;** Practitioners will cooperate with any disciplinary investigations and adhere to the decisions of the relevant governing body.

Enforcement and Monitoring:

- **Professional Association;** A professional committee will be established to oversee the implementation and enforcement of the code of practice.
- **Disciplinary Action;** The Association will have the authority to investigate complaints, impose sanctions, and revoke membership as necessary..