

## **Code of Professional Conduct & Ethics (COVID-19 Special Division)**

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

Each PHECC registered practitioner shall:

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

- 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**

- 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**

##### **Education & Training**

- 3.1 maintain their skills in line with their status on the Register and their PHECC CPGs privileged status,
- 3.2 only perform an intervention limited to the scope of practice PHECC CPGs in which s/he has been adequately educated and trained and is competent in,
- 3.3 familiarise themselves with the current PHECC CPGs.

##### **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 PHECC 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 commit to this code and adhere to it at all times. Failure 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 teamwork**

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**

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.