



NATIONAL BACK EXCHANGE

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

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Code of Professional Conduct

The code which will be in effect from 1st April 2005 was jointly agreed by the National Back Exchange Executive, the Trustees and the Associations membership.

The Professional Code of Conduct encompasses the shared values of the professional regulatory bodies from which National Back Exchange members are drawn.

The code of conduct states that all members should: -

- To promote the exchange and dissemination of information and ideas on back care
 - To develop and promote common standards of training in safer handling.
 - To promote initiatives and act as a forum for providing evaluation and audit of current practice in all matters associated with back care.
 - To lobby employers to provide back care advisory services to reduce work related back problems.
 - To provide support and advice for members.
 - To protect confidential information
 - To maintain professional knowledge and competence within a risk management framework
1. In pursuit of their professional role, members of the association are accountable for their professional practice, ethical standards and adherence to all professional and legal requirements. Each member shall at all time value integrity, impartiality and respect for evidence based practice.
 2. Within their obligations under the constitution of the association, members shall hold the interest, safety and welfare of their service user or those affected by the service provision to be paramount at all times. Members undertaking research shall safeguard the interests of participants, ensuring that their work adheres to ethical and scientific research standards.
 3. Members shall endeavour to maintain and develop their professional competence, and to recognize and work within its limits, striving always to identify and overcome factors restricting their individual competence.
 4. Members shall not lay claim, directly or indirectly, to have competence in any area of back care and associated fields in which they are not competent, nor to have characteristics or capabilities which they do not possess.
 5. Members shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that their qualifications, working practice or views are not misrepresented by others and to amend

formally any such misrepresentations of which they become aware. The documented amendments must be disseminated to all relevant parties.

- 6.** If requested to deliver a service provision outside the members individual competence the member must endeavor to identify an alternative competent service provider. However, the alternative service provider is personally accountable for their own professional practice.
- 7.** Members shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that those working under their supervision act in concordance with this Code of Professional Conduct and that of their own professional regulatory body.
- 8.** Members shall take all reasonable steps to preserve the confidentiality of information acquired through their professional practice or research, and to protect the privacy of individuals, National Back Exchange or other organizations about which information is collected or held. Subject to the requirements of the law, members shall prevent the identity of individuals or organizations being revealed without their expressed written permission. When working in a team or with collaborators, members should inform service users or research participants of the extent to which personally identifiable information may / may not be, communicated with other parties. All parties involved are personally accountable for their own professional practice.
- 10.** Members shall conduct themselves in their professional activities and working practices so not to adversely affect the interests of the service users or research participants. Members must conduct themselves as so not to undermine public confidence in their ability to perform their professional duties.
- 12.** Members shall neither solicit nor accept from service users any significant financial or material benefit beyond that which has been contractually agreed, nor shall they accept any benefits from more than one source for the same work without the written consent of all those parties.
- 13.** In line with Equal Opportunities guidance, members should not allow their professional standards of practice to be adversely affected in respect of religion, gender, race, age, nationality, class, politics, disability, sexual orientation or other extraneous factors.
- 14.** If a member becomes aware of professional misconduct by a fellow member of the association, that cannot be locally resolved, they are responsible for formally initiating the National Back Exchange complaints procedure. They should notify the Chairman either verbally or in writing of such misconduct, doing so without prejudice or malice.