

# Code of Ethics

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The profession is given the privilege of self-governance under the Dental Disciplines Act and, accordingly, registrants must understand the Act, the regulations, and the bylaws and must strictly observe or perform their duties and obligations there under.

To uphold and advance the honour and dignity of the profession and its high standards of ethical conduct, registrants must:

- be honest and impartial in serving their patients, the public and their profession;
- strive to increase the competence and status of their profession;
- use their knowledge and skill to improve the health and well being of their patients and the public; and
- respect the dignity and professional status of, and professional relationships with, their colleagues.

## **Duty to the Public**

The duty of the registrants to the public include:

- educating the public in the promotion of oral and removable prosthodontic health, but presentations for such purposes must be in accordance with generally accepted professional standards and must not contravene the bylaws with respect to marketing or professional services;
- not making any statement or declaration or sign any certificate or any other document, or induce or permit a patient to sign any certificate or document which they know or ought to know to be untrue, misleading, or otherwise improper.

## **Duty to Patients**

The duty of registrants to patients include:

- maintaining patient confidentiality except as may be necessary to divulge such information as contained elsewhere in the bylaws or in connection with investigations by the conduct committee or except to the extent the patient has expressly agreed that the registrant may release specific information;
- maintaining their knowledge of denturism; and
- rendering treatment only in accordance with current professional standards

Registrants may treat patients only when they are qualified by training or experience to carry out the treatment plan. Registrants must be willing to refer a patient when advisable.

Registrants must protect the health of their patients at all times by not delegating or referring any duty or procedure to a person who is not qualified to perform such duty or procedure by skill or training, or by licensure if required under the Act, the regulations or these bylaws, and by not condoning or being a party to such delegations or referrals. Registrants must ensure the actions of all personnel within their employ or control comply with the Act, the regulations, and the bylaws.

Registrants must keep adequate records of all clinical findings, diagnosis and treatment with respect to each of their patients.

## **The duty of registrants to the profession include:**

- supporting and providing advancement of the profession; and
  - providing the highest standard of care and accepting full responsibility for all treatments provided.

## **Duty to Colleagues**

Registrants should not:

- comment or pass judgement on the qualifications of, or procedures rendered by, other registrants unless
  - such comment is in the best interests of the patient's health and well being;
  - the registrant has been subpoenaed as a witness and is testifying under oath.
- compete for patients or professional services by methods which would adversely affect the honour, dignity, or credibility of the profession; or
- compare their professional competence to that of other registrants.

In the event of a consultation, registrants should render only the treatment which was specifically requested.