



REVISED PRINCIPLES OF MEDICAL ETHICS

Adopted June 17, 2001

(Changes highlighted).

REVISED PRINCIPLES*	PREVIOUS PRINCIPLES
Version adopted by the AMA House of Delegates, June 17, 2001	As adopted by the AMA's House of Delegates, 1980
<p>The medical profession has long subscribed to a body of ethical statements developed primarily for the benefit of the patient. As a member of this profession, a physician must recognize responsibility <u>not only to patients, but also to patients first and foremost, as well as</u> to society, to other health professionals, and to self. The following Principles adopted by the American Medical Association are not laws, but standards of conduct which define the essentials of honorable behavior for the physician.</p>	<p>The medical profession has long subscribed to a body of ethical statements developed primarily for the benefit of the patient. As a member of this profession, a physician must recognize responsibility not only to patients, but also to society, to other health professionals, and to self. The following Principles adopted by the American Medical Association are not laws, but standards of conduct which define the essentials of honorable behavior for the physician.</p>
<p>I. A physician shall be dedicated to providing competent medical <u>care service</u>, with compassion and respect for human dignity <u>and rights</u>.</p>	<p>I. A physician shall be dedicated to providing competent medical service with compassion and respect for human dignity.</p>
<p>II. A physician shall <u>deal honestly with patients and colleagues, uphold the standards of professionalism, be honest in all professional interactions,</u> and strive to <u>report</u> expose those physicians deficient in character or competence, or <u>engaging who engage</u> in fraud or deception, <u>to appropriate entities</u>.</p>	<p>II. A physician shall deal honestly with patients and colleagues, and strive to expose those physicians deficient in character or competence, or who engage in fraud or deception.</p>
<p>III. A physician shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes in those requirements which are contrary to the best interests of the patient.</p>	<p>III. A physician shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes in those requirements which are contrary to the best interests of the patient.</p>

<p>IV. A physician shall respect the rights of patients, of colleagues, and of other health professionals, and shall safeguard patient confidences <u>and privacy</u> within the constraints of the law.</p>	<p>IV. A physician shall respect the rights of patients, of colleagues, and of other health professionals, and shall safeguard patient confidences within the constraints of the law.</p>
<p>V. A physician shall continue to study, apply, and advance scientific knowledge, <u>maintain a commitment to medical education</u>, make relevant information available to patients, colleagues, and the public, obtain consultation, and use the talents of other health professionals when indicated.</p>	<p>V. A physician shall continue to study, apply and advance scientific knowledge, make relevant information available to patients, colleagues, and the public, obtain consultation, and use the talents of other health professionals when indicated.</p>
<p>VI. A physician shall, in the provision of appropriate patient care, except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide medical care services.</p>	<p>VI. A physician shall, in the provision of appropriate patient care, except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide medical services.</p>
<p>VII. A physician shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to <u>the improvement of the an improved community and the betterment of public health</u>.</p>	<p>VII. A physician shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to an improved community.</p>
<p>VIII. <u>A physician shall, while caring for a patient, regard responsibility to the patient as paramount.</u></p>	
<p>IX. <u>A physician shall support access to medical care for all people.</u></p>	