



LCSP REGISTER
of Remedial Masseurs and Manipulative Therapists
(Founded 1919)



(A company limited by guarantee: Registered number 4218641)

CODE OF ETHICS.

The Register is governed by a duly elected Council. All persons entering into membership of the Register must formally agree to respect and be governed by all decisions of Council.

Members engaged in the practice of Remedial Massage, Sports Therapy, Physiotherapy, and any allied therapies having satisfied the Council of their competence shall adhere to the following regulations:

REGULATIONS

- 1 Members shall at all times conduct their professional lives with the propriety and dignity becoming a servant of the public and pledge that they will at all times place service before self. They also pledge that they will under no circumstances infringe the code of morality becoming their profession and commit no breach of conduct that will to any degree reflect on themselves, or upon their fellow practitioners and the LCSP Register
- 2 Members shall at all times abide by all the laws and the bylaws of the Country in which they may legally practice or abide.
- 3 Members shall at all times respect the knowledge, skill and experience of the registered medical practitioner and shall always seek to elevate the status of their own profession by working as far as possible in close liaison with the medical fraternity.
- 4 All members must pay their annual membership fee on the due date. All members must ensure that their Professional Indemnity Insurance has also been paid. None or late payment of Professional indemnity Insurance fees could involve a practitioner being uninsured.
- 5 Treatment rooms must be maintained in a state of clinical cleanliness, and public areas and facilities must comply with current Health and Safety Regulations.

6 An accurate and legible record of patient details and treatments is required. These confidential records must be kept in a secure place, properly safeguarded and not accessible to others. The principles of Disclosure and Non-Disclosure are as follows:

- (a) the confidentiality of information acquired in the course of members professional activities is respected and protected, and is disclosed only with the consent of the individual other than in the circumstances defined below in:

Information is disclosed without the patient's consent only in the following circumstances:

- (b) When the patient's parent, guardian or carer has consented to the disclosure and the patient's apparent age or health makes them incapable of consent;
- (c) Members should be aware that information about services provided to adolescents should not normally be disclosed to their parents without due consideration (but members should not be treating adolescents without appropriate accompaniment);
- (d) When disclosure of the information is to a person or body empowered by statute to require such a disclosure;
- (e) When disclosure is directed by a coroner, judge or other presiding officer of a court, Crown Prosecution Office in England and Wales and Procurator Fiscal in Scotland;
- (f) To a police officer or NHS Fraud Investigation Officer who provides in writing confirmation that disclosure is necessary to assist in the prevention, detection or prosecution of serious crime;
- (g) Where necessary to prevent serious injury or damage to the health of the patient, a third party or to public health;
- (h) Members must ensure that access to confidential information within the practice is restricted to those who require that information and who are them-selves subject to an obligation of confidentiality;
- (i) Members must ensure the requirements of all data protection legislation for data collection and use are complied with;
- (j) Members must ensure confidential information is effectively protected against improper disclosure when it is disposed of, stored, transmitted or received;
- (k) Members' computer and manual systems which include patient specific information must incorporate access control systems to minimise the risk of unauthorised or unnecessary access to the data. Members' computer systems which include patient specific information and which are linked to the internet or other networks must incorporate measures such as data encryption to eliminate the risk of unauthorised access to confidential data.

CONDUCT

7 A Member of the Register must not

- (a) Use the title “Doctor” unless he/she is a registered medical practitioner. If a member has a doctorate from a recognised University in a subject other than medicine and is thereby entitled to the designation “Doctor, he/she must make clear on all letter headings, advertisements or correspondence that the Doctorate is in the subject in which the degree was awarded, (e.g. Dr. J. Smith, PhD (Lit) Doctor of letters).
- (b) Address or refer to an assistant as “nurse” unless the person referred to holds a nursing qualification recognised in the U.K.
- (c) Carry on any consultation, physical examination or treatment of a child under the age of 18 except in the presence of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult approved by the parent or guardian.
- (d) Make any claim, verbally or in writing, in regard to the curative effect of a treatment.
- (e) Carry out any treatment of a patient who has already received similar treatment for the same condition from another therapist unless the patient has, of his/her own volition, decided to abandon the original therapist’s treatment.
- (f) Treat clients who are mentally unstable, addicted to drugs or alcohol unless you have the necessary competence or have written medical consent.
- (g) Treat animals without consent of vet.
- (h) Knowingly treat anyone with a serious medical condition except with the approval of a Doctor.
- (i) Attend women in childbirth or treat them, 10 days thereafter without permission of the healthcare professional unless they hold an appropriate qualification.

8 Members shall be free to advertise their service and practices as they see fit, subject to any such advertisements.

- a. being legal, decent, honest and truthful and in accordance with the British Code of Advertising Practice;
- b. not being of a character that could reasonably be regarded as likely to bring the profession into disrepute;
- c. not being such as to abuse the trust of existing or potential patients or exploit their lack of knowledge

9 Members shall confine their services to within the recognised spheres of their profession, and shall not offer nor promise, cures for specific conditions.

STATIONERY AND NAMEPLATES

10 These should be of a professional nature, of good taste and non-controversial in design.

OTHER THERAPIES

- 11 LCSP members who are qualified to teach other subject or therapies must ensure that there will be no risk that the Register will be brought into disrepute from such teaching.

MEMBERS MUST UNDERTAKE:

- a. To observe the highest of integrity and responsibility in regard to the scope of your practice and to recognise that the interest and welfare of the patient are paramount;
- b. To respect totally the confidentiality of the relationship of the practitioner and patient;
- c. To seek assistance or refer the patient to his/her medical practitioner in any situation where the practitioner might feel a lack of the necessary knowledge or competence to administer treatment;
- d. To continue and update his/her knowledge of physical therapy by means of lectures, seminars and suitable reading; – see section on C.P.D.
- e. To refrain from enticing patients from the care of a professional colleague and to abstain from any action or statement that may bring a professional colleague or organisation into disrepute;
- f. To keep detailed and accurate records of all patient contacts and treatments, as well as the necessary business and financial records;
- g. To refrain from making any statement or claim misrepresenting the therapeutic benefits of a treatment;
- h. To comply to the letter with the Code of Ethics.
- i. Be sensitive to clients in regard to modesty and special needs e.g. language difficulties, disabilities.
- j. Respect the views and beliefs of their clients in regard to gender, ethnic origins, culture, sexuality, lifestyle, age and social status.
- k. Maintain good communication and ensure understanding. Obtain consent for all procedures.
- l. Respect clients' autonomy and allow them choice.
- m. Be prepared and competent to administer emergency procedures.
- n. Provide information if requested to other health professionals with clients written consent.
- o. To report notifiable disease status, according to law.
- p. Keep records for at least 9 years, 21 years for children and indefinitely for seriously ill or disabled clients.
- q. Nothing is to be published in the name of the LCSP Register without permission from the Governing Council.

CERTIFICATION

- 12 No member of the Register shall approve, sign or validate any document or certificate in any therapy or allied subject without the express permission of LCSP Council.