

# THE ASSOCIATION FOR CLASSICAL MANIPULATION

## Code of Ethics

### Standards of Ethical Conduct Governing members of the Association of Classical Manipulation (ACM)

1. At all times to conduct themselves both in practice and in their private lives in a manner befitting health care professionals and not to disgrace or in any other way harm the profession and or the Association.
2. Members should have an attitude of modesty and propriety in their relationships with patients and abide by the will of the majority in all professional matters.
3. Members who are aware of any breach of this Code by a fellow member may, if they think it appropriate, endeavour to remedy it at first by a personal approach. If this fails, they should report the matter to the Chair of the Association. The Committee shall then take what action it shall deem necessary under the Disciplinary Procedure.
4. Not to attempt to practise or hold themselves out as practising medical, veterinary, primary healthcare practitioners, (e.g. Chiropractor unless registered with the GCC or other statutory body) Practice any technique unless competent to practise that therapy and hold suitable insurance.
5. In accordance to and in compliance with the Chiropractors Act 1994 Section 32 (i) no member is to call themselves directly or by implication a chiropractor.
6. To keep full and proper records as from the initial attendance of a patient and to keep such records for a minimum of eight years.
7. To make a working assessment/diagnosis appropriate to the technique being practiced and explain this together with a treatment plan to the patient/client.
8. Unless the patient has given specific consent or unless ordered by a Court of competent jurisdiction or as required by Statute, not to disclose any information concerning a patient learned in the course of practice.
9. To accept the transfer of a patient from another practitioner of the Association providing there are no reasonable grounds for refusal.
10. Not to solicit the patients of another Association member.
11. Not to advertise or claim to cure any disease which is defined by Statute as being incurable.
12. At all times to maintain a good standard of hygiene in both treatment room and waiting room. To maintain a high standard of personal hygiene and respect the privacy of the patient.
13. It must be emphasised that if a case is taken on a reduced fee basis a member's obligations are in no way diminished.
14. Not to publish or make an announcement affecting the ACM without the approval of the Committee.
16. Relationships between members. Members of the Association are colleagues and:
  - a) A member shall not criticise, belittle or condemn a fellow member or members of other health professions in the presence of a patient or other lay person.
  - b) Members shall not undertake cases which, to their knowledge, are under the care of another member, except in emergency cases or with the consent of that member and nor shall they use any means to persuade a patient to leave another member to become their patient. Nevertheless, if the patient moves to another district or for any reason desires to change from one member to another, he or she shall always be free to do so.

A report and any other relevant information should be forwarded without delay directly to the member newly in charge if requested. The relationship between the patient and the member responsible for passing on this information shall have no bearing on the action to be taken.
  - c) When members undertake the treatment of a patient because the member who regularly treats such patient is not available they shall give all assistance they can. At the earliest opportunity they shall return the patient to the member who regularly treats the patient and supply all relevant details of the case whilst under their care.
  - d) Members shall not entice patients from another member, nor shall they offer any reduction in fees for the purpose of enticing patients from another member.
  - e) Where two or more members practice together in the same practice, whether as partners or otherwise, and in the absence of agreement to the contrary, a patient who has been treated at the practice by any of the members working in the same practice shall be deemed to be patient of the member or members to whom the practice belongs. Before or after leaving such a practice, and in the absence of agreement to the contrary, a member shall take no steps which are or may be calculated to persuade a patient to leave that practice.
18. Members should project the image of the Association in a professional manner in all literature and communications that relate to Classical Manipulation practice.
19. A member/practitioner shall comply with the terms of any partnership or employment agreement into which he/she shall enter.