



## **The code of ethics**

Dietetic Registration believe it is in the best interest of the profession and the public it serves to have a Code of Ethics in place that provides guidance to nutrition and dietetics practitioners in their professional practice and conduct. Nutrition and dietetics practitioners have voluntarily adopted this Code of Ethics to reflect the values and ethical principles guiding the profession and to set forth commitments and obligations of the nutrition and dietetics practitioner to the public, clients, the profession, colleagues, and all others to which they provide service.

The Ethics Committee of Health Workers meets within the Chamber of Nurses and Health Technicians of Serbia. The association has its own code of ethics, which is based on the principles of the Code of Ethics of the Chamber. within the framework of the Chamber of Nurses and Technicians of Serbia there is a representative of a nutritionist-dietitian who sits as necessary for the profession of nutritionist-dietitian

The updated Code of Ethics was approved by the UNDS, effective 19.02. 2024 .Code of Ethics for the nutritionist-dietitian Profession

## **The code of ethics applies to the following practitioners:**

- All members of the UNDS

We are sending a link with an attachment, from the Chamber of Nurses and Technicians of Serbia

<https://kmszts.org.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/statut-KMSZTS.pdf>

Ethics Committee

The Ethics Committee has eight members.

The Assembly elects the chairman of the Ethics Committee from among the members of the Ethics Committee.

Expert - profile committees propose members of the Ethics Committee to the Assembly, so that each

The branch must have at least 1 member in the Ethics Committee.

The Ethics Committee, in addition to the duties established by law:

1. monitors compliance with the rules of the Code of Medical Ethics,
2. follows international standards of medical ethics,
3. makes a proposal for amendments to the Code of Medical Ethics,
4. submits the Annual Report on its work to the Assembly for adoption,
5. performs other tasks in accordance with the law and this statute.

6. Court of Honor

a) Organization and method of selection

Article 45

To decide on violations of duties and the reputation of the profession of nurses i health technicians, the Assembly of the Chamber educates at the headquarters of the Court of Honor branch

of the first degree, and in the seat of the Chamber Court of Honor of the second degree.

b) Jurisdiction

Article 46

The court of honor of the first instance has a president and two members.

The court of honor of the second degree has a president and five members.

The seat of the Court of Honor of the first instance is at the seat of the Chamber branch.

The seat of the Court of Honor of the second degree is at the seat of the Chamber

## **Four Principles**

<b>competence</b>
<b>professionalism</b>
<b>beneficence</b>
<b>autonomy</b>
<b>justice</b>

## **Principles**

### **Nutrition and dietetics practitioners shall**

a. Disclose any conflicts of interest, including any financial interests in products or services that are recommended. Refrain from accepting gifts or services which potentially influence or which may give the appearance of influencing professional judgment.

b. Comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including obtaining/maintaining a state license or certification if engaged in practice governed by nutrition and dietetics statutes.

- c. Maintain and appropriately use credentials.
  - d. Respect intellectual property rights, including citation and recognition of the ideas and work of others, regardless of the medium (e.g. written, oral, electronic)
  - e. Provide accurate and truthful information in all communications.
  - f. Report inappropriate behavior or treatment of a patient/ client by another nutrition and dietetics practitioner or other professionals.
  - g. Document, code and bill to most accurately reflect the character and extent of delivered services.
2. Integrity in personal and organizational behaviors and practices (Autonomy)

### **Professionalism (Beneficence)**

#### **Nutrition and dietetics practitioners shall**

- a. Participate in and contribute to decisions that affect the well-being of patients/clients.
- b. Respect the values, rights, knowledge, and skills of colleagues and other professionals.
- c. Demonstrate respect, constructive dialogue, civility and professionalism in all communications, including social media.
- d. Refrain from communicating false, fraudulent, deceptive, misleading, disparaging or unfair statements or claims.
- e. Uphold professional boundaries and refrain from romantic relationships with any patients/clients, surrogates, supervisees, or students.
- f. Refrain from verbal/physical/emotional/sexual harassment.
- g. Provide objective evaluations of performance for employees, coworkers, and students and candidates for employment, professional association memberships, awards, or scholarships, making all reasonable efforts to avoid bias in the professional evaluation of others.
- h. Communicate at an appropriate level to promote health literacy

i. Contribute to the advancement and competence of others, including colleagues, students, and the public.

### **Nutrition and dietetics practitioners shall**

a. Collaborate with others to reduce health disparities and protect human rights.

b. Promote fairness and objectivity with fair and equitable treatment.

c. Contribute time and expertise to activities that promote respect, integrity, and competence of the profession.

d. Promote the unique role of nutrition and dietetics practitioners.

e. Engage in service that benefits the community and to enhance the public's trust in the profession.

f. Seek leadership opportunities in professional, community, and service organizations to enhance health and nutritional status while protecting the public.

### **Glossary of terms**

1. Competence: a principle of professional practice, identifying the ability of the provider to administer safe and reliable services on a consistent basis.

2. Beneficence: encompasses taking positive steps to benefit others, which includes balancing benefit and risk.

3. Autonomy: ensures a patient, client, or professional has the capacity and self-determination to engage in individual decision-making specific to personal health or practice.<sup>1</sup>

Conflict(s) of Interest(s): defined as a personal or financial interest or a duty to another party which may prevent a person from acting in the best interests of the intended beneficiary, including simultaneous membership on boards with potentially conflicting interests related to the profession, members or the public.

Customer: any client, patient, resident, participant, student, consumer, individual/person, group, population, or organization to which the nutrition and dietetics practitioner provides service.

4. Professionalism -Evidence-based Practice: Evidence-based practice is an approach to health care wherein health practitioners use the best evidence possible, i.e., the most appropriate information available, to make decisions for individuals, groups and populations. Evidence-based practice values, enhances and builds on clinical expertise, knowledge of disease mechanisms, and pathophysiology. It involves complex and conscientious decision-making based not only on the available evidence but also on client characteristics, situations, and preferences. It recognizes that health care is individualized and ever changing and involves uncertainties and probabilities. Evidence-based practice incorporates successful strategies that improve client outcomes and are derived from various sources of evidence including research, national guidelines, policies, consensus statements, systematic analysis of clinical experience, quality improvement data, specialized knowledge and skills of experts.

5 Justice (Social Justice): supports fair, equitable, and appropriate treatment for individuals and fair allocation of resources. Non-Maleficence: is the intent to not inflict harm.