

Ghana Alternative Medical Practitioners Associations (GAMPA)

Code of Ethics

Preamble

This Code of Ethics serves as a guide to all members of GAMPA in upholding the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, competence, and accountability in the practice of complementary and alternative medicine. It reflects our collective commitment to public health, cultural respect, scientific inquiry, and responsible care delivery.

1. Professional Competence and Integrity

- Members shall maintain the highest level of professional knowledge, skills, and competence through ongoing education and training.
- Members shall conduct themselves with integrity, honesty, and fairness in all professional interactions.
- Members shall avoid any form of fraud, misrepresentation, or unethical conduct that may bring disrepute to GAMPA or the profession.
- Members shall use and display only the professional titles conferred or approved by GAMPA based on their verified qualifications.

2. Respect for Clients and Informed Consent

- Members shall treat all clients with dignity, respect, and without discrimination based on age, gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status.
- Members shall obtain informed consent from clients before initiating any treatment, ensuring clients understand the nature, risks, benefits, and alternatives.
- Members shall uphold clients' rights to autonomy, privacy, and confidentiality in all professional matters.

3. Confidentiality

- Members shall respect and protect the confidentiality of all client information unless legally required to disclose or with the client's informed consent.
- Records shall be kept secure and only accessed by authorized individuals.

4. Honesty in Advertising and Claims

- Members shall ensure that all advertisements, public statements, or promotional materials are truthful, evidence-informed, and not misleading.
- Members shall not make unfounded claims regarding the efficacy of their treatments or products.
- Testimonials shall be used ethically and not manipulated.

5. Interprofessional Collaboration

- Members shall respect the roles of other healthcare practitioners and collaborate when it serves the best interest of the client.

- Members shall refer clients to other healthcare providers when the client's condition falls outside their scope of practice.

6. Scope of Practice and Safety

- Members shall operate strictly within the boundaries of their training, certification, and legal scope of practice.
- Members shall ensure all treatments are safe, culturally appropriate, and based on credible knowledge systems.
- Members shall not prescribe pharmaceutical or conventional drugs. Failure to comply shall attract sanctions as determined by the GAMPA Governing Council.
- Members shall report adverse reactions, unsafe practices, or risks to client safety to the appropriate regulatory authority.

7. Conflict of Interest

- Members shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest that could influence professional judgment.
- Members shall not accept or offer improper inducements or engage in exploitative financial practices.

8. Research and Innovation

- Members engaged in research shall adhere to ethical principles, including respect for participants, scientific integrity, and cultural sensitivity.
- New methods and products shall be piloted and documented responsibly, with safety being the paramount concern.

9. Respect for Colleagues

- Members shall not discredit, slander, or undermine the professional reputation of a fellow practitioner.
- Professional disagreements shall be resolved respectfully and through appropriate internal mechanisms.

10. Accountability and Disciplinary Action

- Members shall be accountable to GAMPA and subject to its disciplinary processes in cases of unethical conduct.
- Any member found in breach of this Code may face warnings, suspension, or expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense, as determined by the GAMPA Governing Council.

11. Commitment to the Profession and Public Trust

- Members shall promote the advancement of complementary and alternative medicine with honor and responsibility.
- Members shall uphold the reputation of GAMPA and work toward strengthening public trust in the profession.

Declaration

- All members of GAMPAs shall affirm their commitment to abide by this Code of Ethics upon joining the Association and renew this commitment annually.

