

CODE OF PRACTICE - PODIATRY

PRODUCED BY THE COUNCIL FOR THE PROFESSIONS COMPLEMENTARY TO MEDICINE

April 2006

The 'Podiatry Code of Practice' provides advice and guidelines to the members of the profession. This code of practice is designed to compliment the Code of Professional and Ethical Conduct for Podiatry produced by the Board for the Professions Supplementary to Medicine now the Council for the Professions Complementary to Medicine (revised Feb. 2002).

Code of Practice.

1. No person shall practice Podiatry or attempt to do so unless registered with the CPCM
2. Podiatrists must conduct themselves professionally and at no time bring the profession into disrepute. They should at all times conduct themselves according to the Code of Professional and Ethical Conduct as published by the Board.
3. Podiatrists may treat any maladies, abnormal conditions, disease and/or imbalance of the foot according to their competency. They may utilize any means within their expertise to treat foot conditions, however they must recognize the extent and limitations of their professional expertise.
4. In the course of the examination, they may also examine structures above the foot but not treat directly.
5. Podiatrists shall strive to maintain a high level of professionalism by any continuing education.
6. In cases not within their competence, podiatrists shall refer to a colleague or other health care professional as deemed necessary.
7. Podiatrists shall maintain accurate and comprehensive records of podiatric procedures pertaining to their clients. Data protection regulations must be adhered to. Client's records are to be retained for a period not less than 5 years.
8. Podiatrists shall follow infection control regulations regarding cross infection and instrument sterilization. If in doubt, an Infection Control Officer shall be consulted.
9. Sharps should be disposed of in approved disposal methods.
10. Podiatrists shall use appropriate health and safety equipment.
11. When treating minors, they should always be accompanied by a parent or guardian. A consent form should always be obtained.
12. When an injectable substance such as Local Anesthetic is administered, all relevant information such as dosage, quantity and site of injection should be recorded.