

JUNE 2018

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Chapter 16

19

MAY
SATURDAY
139-220 • WK 20(B) - Code of Pharmaceutical Ethics -

Definition, Pharmacist in relation to his job, trade, Medical Profession & his Profession, Pharmacist's Eth.

Definition -

(i) Ethics - It means moral Principles. It is a Science of moral duty. Or Rules by which a Profession regulates actions & sets a standard for all its members.

(ii) Pharmaceutical Ethics - The ethics in relation to Pharmacy Profession is called Pharmaceutical ethics.

(iii) Morality - Morality means good Conduct or behavior & Consciousness.

(iv) Law - It is defined as the rules of human Conduct binding to all persons in a State or nation.

Code of Pharmaceutical Ethics -

The Code of Pharmaceutical ethics is formulated by PCI for the guidance of Indian Pharmacist. The Code of Pharmaceutical ethics helps to guide the Pharmacist as to how he should conduct himself in relation to his job, his trade, his Profession (Pharmacy), Medical Profession.

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Pharmacist in relation to his job -

(i) Scope of Pharmaceutical Services -

- * When Premises are registered under Statutory Requirements & opened as a Pharmacy.
- * This provides the Supply of commonly required medicines of this nature without delay.
- * It also involves willingness to furnish emergency supplies at all times.

(ii) Conduct of Pharmacy -

- * The Condition in a pharmacy should be such as to avoidable accidental Contamination in the Preparation, dispensing & supply of medicines.
- * The appearance of the Premises should reflect the professional Character of the Pharmacy.
- * It should be clear to the public that the Practice Pharmacy is Carried out in the establishment.
- * Signs, notices, descriptions, wording on business, Stationary & related indications should be restrained in size, design & terms.

(iii) Handling of Prescriptions -

- * When a Prescription is Presented for dispensing. It should be received by a Pharmacist without any discussion or comment over it regarding the merits & demerits of its therapeutic efficiency.
- * The Pharmacist should not even show any expression on his face of alarm.
- * Any question on a Prescription should be answered with every Caution & Care.

(iv) Handling of Drugs -

- * All possible Care should be taken to dispense a Prescription correctly by weighing & measuring all ingredients in correct proportions by the help of scale & measure. Visual estimations must be avoided.
- * Always use drugs & medicinal preparations of standard quality available. He should never fill his prescriptions with spurious, substandard & unethical preparations.

Pharmacist in Relation to his trade -

(i) Price structure -

- Prices charged from customers should be fair & in keeping with the quality & quantity of commodity supplied & the labor & skill required in making it ready for use.
- So as to ensure an adequate remuneration to the pharmacist taking into consideration his knowledge, skill.

(ii) Fair Trade Practices -

- No attempt should be made to capture the business of a fellow pharmacist by cut-throat competition, that is, by offering any sort of prizes or gift or by knowingly charging lower prices for medical commodities than those charged by fellow pharmacist.
- Labels, trademarks & other signs & symbols of contemporaries should not be imitated or copied.

(iii) Purchase of Drugs -

- Drugs should always be purchased from genuine & reputable sources & a pharmacist should always be on his guard not to aid or abet, directly or indirectly, the manufacture, possession, distribution & sale of spurious or sub-standard drugs.

(iv) Hawking of Drugs -

→ Hawking of drugs & medicinal should not be encouraged nor should any attempt be made to solicit order for such substances from door to door.

→ 'Self-service' method of operating Pharmacies & drug stores should not be used as this practice may lead to the distribution of therapeutic substances without an expert supervision & thus would encourage self-medication which is highly undesirable.

(v) Advertising & Displays -

→ No display material either on the premises, in the press or elsewhere should be used by a pharmacist in connection with the sale to the public of medicines or medical appliances which is undignified in style or which contain:

- * Any offer about refund of money.
- * Misleading or claims.
- * The word 'Cure' in reference to an ailment or symptoms of ill-health.
- * A guarantee of therapeutic efficacy.
- * An appeal to fear.

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Pharmacist in Relation to Medical Profession -

- (i) ⁹ Limitation of Professional Activities - Pharmacist under ¹⁰ no Circumstances take to medical Practice i.e. diagnosing drug & Prescribing medicines.
- (ii) ¹¹ In Emergency he can give first aid to the person, ¹² should not recommend a medical Practitioner.
- (iii) ¹² (Secret) Clandestine Arrangement - No pharmacist should enter into the secret arrangement & Contact with the Physician to offer him any Commission or any other ¹ advantage.

Pharmacist in Relation to his Profession -

- (i) ³ Extend help to fellow pharmacist in emergency need.
- (ii) ⁴ Should maintain Standard of the Profession.
- (iii) ⁵ Should try to weed out Corruption in Profession & Society.
- (iv) ⁶ He should not be afraid of bringing or causing a ⁷ miscreant to be brought to book.
- (v) ⁸ Should have up to date knowledge of professional matters.
- (vi) ⁹ Should have fair knowledge of laws related to his Profession.

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26

MAY

SATURDAY

146-219 • WK 21

"Pharmacist's Oath"

- (i) At this time, I vow to devote my professional life to the service of all humankind through the Profession of Pharmacy.
- (ii) I will consider the welfare of humanity & relief of human suffering my primary concerns.
- (iii) I will apply my knowledge, experience, & skills to the best of my ability to assure optimal drug therapy outcomes for the patients I serve.
- (iv) I will keep abreast of developments & maintain professional competency in my Profession of Pharmacy.
- (v) I will maintain the highest principles of moral, ethical & legal conduct.
- (vi) I will embrace & advocate change in the Profession of Pharmacy that improves patient care.
- (vii) I take these vows voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.

SUNDAY 27

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