

# **Code of Ethics for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians Ontario College of Pharmacists**

**DRAFT 3, March 22, 2005**

## **Preamble**

All pharmacists and pharmacy technicians have moral obligations in return for the trust given them by society. Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are obliged to act in the best interest of the patient, observe the law, uphold the dignity and honour of the profession, and practice in accordance with ethical principles and standards of practice.

## **Principle One**

The patient's well-being is at the centre of the pharmacist's and pharmacy technician's professional and/or business practices. The pharmacist and the pharmacy technician develop a professional relationship with each patient that is in accordance with his/her scope of practice. Patients have the right to self-determination and are encouraged to participate in decisions about their health.

## **Principle Two**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician exercise professional judgment in the best interest of the patient to ensure that patient needs are met.

## **Principle Three**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician preserve the confidentiality of patient information acquired in the course of his or her professional practice and do not divulge this information except where authorized by the patient, required by law, or where there is a compelling need to share information in order to protect the patient or another person from harm.

## **Principle Four**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician respects the autonomy, individuality and dignity of each patient and provide care with respect for human rights and without discrimination. No patient shall be deprived of pharmaceutical services because of the personal convictions or religious beliefs of a pharmacist or pharmacy technician

## **Principle Five**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician act with honesty and integrity.

### **Principle Six**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician commit to continually improve his or her professional competence.

### **Principle Seven**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician collaborate with other health care professionals to achieve the best possible outcomes for the patient, understanding the individual roles and contributions of other health care providers and consulting with or referring to them as appropriate.

### **Principle Eight**

The pharmacist and pharmacy technician do not practice under conditions, which compromise professional standards nor impose such conditions on others.