

## **ADDENDUM 6B**

### **RULES OF CONDUCT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS PRACTITIONERS (ACRP)**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Practising as a Christian Religious Practitioner is based on a relationship of mutual trust between clients and practitioners.
- 1.2 The term “profession” means “a dedication, promise or commitment publicly made”.
- 1.3 To be a good practitioner requires a life-long commitment to sound professional and ethical practices and an overriding dedication to the interests of one’s fellow human beings and society, regardless faith, sex or gender.

#### **2. Advertising and Canvassing**

- 2.1 A Religious Professional shall be allowed to advertise his services or permit, sanction or acquiesce to such advertisement, provided that the advertisement is not unprofessional, untruthful, deceptive or misleading or causes clients unwarranted anxiety that they may be suffering from any health condition.
- 2.2 A Religious Professional shall not canvass or tout or allow canvassing for touting to be done for clients on his behalf.

#### **3. Information on Professional Stationery**

- 3.1 A Religious Professional shall print or have printed on letterheads, accounts, forms and electronic stationery information pertaining only to such professional’s –
  - 3.1.1 Title
  - 3.2.2 Name
  - 3.2.3 Designation
  - 3.2.4 Field of interest
  - 3.2.5 Registered qualifications or other academic qualifications in abbreviated form
  - 3.2.6 Professional body registration number
  - 3.2.7 Addresses (including email address)
  - 3.2.8 Telephone and fax numbers
  - 3.2.9 Practice or consultation hours.

#### **4. Supersession**

- 4.1 A Practitioner shall not supersede or take over a client from another Practitioner if he is aware that such client is in consultation with another Practitioner, unless he:
  - 4.1.1 Takes reasonable steps to inform the other Practitioner that he has taken over the client at such client's request, and
  - 4.1.2 Establishes from the other Practitioner what services such client previously received and in such case the other Practitioner shall be obliged to provide such required information.

#### **5. Impeding a Client**

A Practitioner shall not impede a client, or in the case of a minor, the parent or guardian of such minor, from obtaining the opinion of another Practitioner or from being treated by another Practitioner.

#### **6. Professional Reputation of Colleagues**

A Practitioner shall not cast reflections on the probity, professional reputation or skill of another person registered with the ACRP.

#### **7. Professional Confidentiality**

- 7.1 A Practitioner shall divulge verbally or in writing information regarding a client which he ought to divulge only:
  - 7.1.1 in terms of a statutory provision
  - 7.1.2 at the instruction of a court of law; or
  - 7.1.3 where justified in the public interest.
- 7.2 Any information other than the information referred to above shall be divulged by a Practitioner only –
  - 7.2.1 with the express consent of the client
  - 7.2.2 in the case of a minor under the age of 12 years, with the written consent of his parent or guardian, or
  - 7.2.3 in the case of a deceased parent, with the written consent of his next-of-kin or the executor of such deceased client's estate.

#### **8. Performance of Acts**

8.1 A Practitioner shall perform, except in an emergency, only a professional act:

8.1.1 for which he is adequately educated, trained and sufficiently experienced;

8.1.2 under proper conditions and in appropriate surroundings.

## **9. Exploitation**

A Practitioner shall not permit himself to be exploited in any manner.

## **10. Reporting of Impairment or Unprofessional, Illegal or Unethical Conduct**

10.1 A Practitioner shall

10.1.1 report impairment of another Practitioner to the Professional Body if he is convinced that such Practitioner is impaired;

10.1.2 report his own impairment or suspected impairment to the Professional Body if he is aware of his own impairment or has been publicly informed or has been seriously advised by a colleague to act appropriately to obtain help in view of an alleged or established impairment;

10.1.3 report any unprofessional, illegal or unethical conduct on the part of another Practitioner.

## **11. Main Responsibilities of Practitioners**

11.1 A Practitioner shall at all times:

11.1.1 act in the best interest of his clients;

11.1.2 respect client confidentiality, privacy, choices and dignity;

11.1.3 maintain the highest standard of personal conduct and integrity;

11.1.4 provide adequate information about the client's options and alternatives and any other pertinent information to enable the client to exercise a choice in terms of services offered and informed decision-making pertaining to his needs and those of others;

11.1.5 keep his professional knowledge and skills up to date;

11.1.6 maintain proper and effective communication with clients and other professionals;

11.1.7 obtain informed consent from the client, or from his next of kin in the event of an emergency, when the client is unable to provide consent for care himself, and

11.1.8 keep client records accurately and safely.