

Schedule A

CDBC Code of Ethics

Prc06/Code of Ethics.Principles & Stds – Apr 06

- Principle 1** Dietitians conduct themselves with integrity, honesty and fairness.
- Principle 2** Dietitians practice safely, competently and legally.
- Principle 3** Dietitians respect the client's right to make choices.
- Principle 4** Dietitians place the client's best interests as their primary obligation.
- Principle 5** Dietitians respect the values and abilities of colleagues and other members of the client's professional team.
- Principle 6** Dietitians respect confidentiality and privacy.

Principles and Standards

Principle 1 Dietitians conduct themselves with integrity, honesty and fairness.

Standards

- Be truthful
- Avoid bias
- Be responsible and accountable for services provided
- Remain professionally objective
- Treat others with respect
- Recognize expertise of members of the client's professional team
- Refrain from professional misconduct
- Refrain from acts which negatively affect the dignity of the profession

Principle 2 Dietitians practice safely, competently and legally.

Standards

- Provide the best service that circumstances, resources, experience and education permit
- Meet legislated requirements in the *Health Professions Act*, Dietitians Regulation, College of Dietitians of BC bylaws and other pertinent legislation
- Provide services based on scientific principles and current best-practice information
- Provide services within the scope of registration class, Reserved Act registration and level of competence
- Use professional judgment
- Maintain currency and competency by acquiring relevant knowledge and skills
- Meet continuing competence program requirements
- Recognize and resolve ethical situations
- Accurately present professional qualifications and credentials
- Assume responsibility for services provided by those under your supervision

Principle 3 Dietitians respect the client's right to make choices.

Standards

- Provide information in an understandable and sensitive manner; refrain from deception, coercion or abuse
- Actively include the client or substitute decision maker in discussions of service provision
- Obtain verbal and/or physical indication of informed consent for planned services, changes in planned services, refusal and/or withdrawal of services
- Respect the client's right to a second opinion
- Respect the client's choice

Principle 4 Dietitians place the client's best interests as their primary obligation.

Standards

- Be sensitive to, but not prejudiced by a client's ancestry, nationality, ethnicity, religion, age, gender, social and marital status, sexual orientation, political beliefs, literacy, or physical, mental or emotional status
- Incorporate the client's needs and values in the service plan
- Refer the client to another health professional or service provider, when a conflict of interest exists or when the client requires services that are beyond the dietitian's skill or knowledge level
- Refrain from real or perceived conflict of interest; fully disclose to the client if a conflict of interest is unavoidable
- Ensure continuity of service to the best of one's ability if service disruptions cannot be avoided
- Advocate for the client at all times
- Bring forward concerns to the health professional, the health professional's supervisor and/or the health professional's regulatory body about unsafe practice or unethical conduct

Principle 5 Dietitians respect the values and abilities of colleagues and other members of the client's professional team.

Standards

- Show respect and recognize the expertise of team members
- Share information and plan cooperatively and collaboratively for quality service
- Ensure the client's service plan is consistent with the overall professional plan

Principle 6 Dietitians respect confidentiality and privacy.

Standards

- Collect, release and store client information in accordance with provincial and federal legislation
- Enable clients to access their records in accordance with the *Access to Information Act*
- Disclose confidential client information when referring and consulting only as necessary, with consent or as legally required, or where the failure to disclose would cause significant harm to the client or others