

## CODE OF ETHICS AND PRACTICE

The welfare of the client is the primary concern of the therapist. It should only take second place if not to do so would seriously jeopardise other members of the public or the therapist's welfare.

### All practising members undertake:

To provide treatment consistent with a diligent duty of care and within their knowledge, competence and experience.

To hold Public Liability & Treatment Risk Insurance.

To recommend, where the patient's condition is suspected to have a physical basis or cause, that the patient/client should seek medical advice first.

To maintain strict confidentiality during and after treatment in all but the most exceptional circumstances. These include: legal action (where a court order is made demanding disclosure) and where there is good cause to believe that not to disclose would cause danger of serious harm to others. The sharing of anonymous old or open case histories with supervisors is not a breach of confidentiality.

To obtain permission from the client before the audio or video recording of any part of a session can take place.

Never to use their position of trust and confidence to exploit the client in any way whatsoever. They shall never enter into any form of relationship other than professional while treating the client. All charges are to be made to the client before commencement of treatment.

Should any irregularity arise with the client/therapist relationship to immediately consult with the Professional Standards Officer of the Management Committee of the Association, and where appropriate to cease treatment and/or refer the client to another therapist.

To complete courses of treatment in every case at the earliest possible opportunity.

To take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the client and those accompanying them.

To ensure that rooms and other facilities to be used for hypnotherapy and/or associated practice are suitable for such purpose.

Never to use hypnosis before spectators where the intended or expected outcome is the demeaning of the hypnotised and/or other person for the amusement of others, and where hypnotherapy is

demonstrated to an audience to immediately desist if aforesaid amusement begins to come about.

To keep any interest or activity involving stage hypnosis as totally separate from hypnotherapeutic work, such that no connection to the name of the Association or profession can be inferred, unless such activity shall constitute research specifically approved and passed by the Research and Ethics Boards of the Association.

To be aware that certain techniques of hypnosis may be unethical or inappropriate for certain patients, and to be judicious in the use of such techniques.

To conduct themselves, at all times, in accord with their status and never to do anything that might bring hypnotherapy, the UK Hypnotherapy Register or The Hypnotherapy Society into disrepute.