

	Z01	<i>Office of the Medical Director / Emergency Medical Services Branch</i>
	2017-04-10	<b>Code of Ethics</b>

EMS personnel:

The Code of Ethics defines standards of conduct for Manitoba pre-hospital practitioners. It is the overall goal to ensure all licensed practitioners provide competent, safe and ethical pre-hospital care, emergent or non emergent, ensuring that practices are consistent with provincial legislation and standards of care.

### **Responsibility to the Patient and Others**

The licensed practitioner must:

- Provide the most effective, efficient, and safe patient care as is reasonably possible within the level of his / her competencies and seek consultation with other health care professionals when necessary
- Only initiate care, conduct procedures, or intervene in situations involving a patient where those procedures are explicitly intended for the benefit or well being of the patient
- Practice in accordance with the EMS Protocols and Procedures as published by the Office of the Medical Director and the Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living, Emergency Medical Services Branch
- Provide high quality patient care, including physical comfort and emotional support, to the extent that the licensed practitioner is reasonably able to do
- Once accepting responsibility for a patient or initiating the provision of patient care, continue provision of care until it is no longer required or until another appropriately qualified health care professional accepts responsibility of care
- Treat individuals with dignity and respect
- Advocate in the best interest of the person
- Practice clinical and professional judgment to ensure informed consent and informed refusal of care
- Respect and maintain appropriate relationship boundaries
- Communicate clearly and respectfully
- Recognize the rights of the person
- Protect and maintain patient privacy and confidentiality in accordance with the requirements of federal and provincial legislation
- Demonstrate patience, compassion and courtesy
- Work collaboratively with others

## **Responsibility to the Profession**

The licensed practitioner must:

- Practice in accordance with the Emergency Medical Response and Stretcher Transportation Act and land, air or stretcher regulation
- Honour the profession by ensuring that his / her conduct reflects positively on the integrity of the profession
- Demonstrate leadership
- Share professional knowledge, participate in mentorship, and be willing to learn and accept new knowledge shared by others
- Actively participate in the quality assurance system
- Foster respectful, professional, and positive work and learning environments
- Report any unsafe practice, professional incompetence, unprofessional conduct, and any participation in, or conviction of a criminal activity to the appropriate authorities
- Recognize professional limitations

## **Responsibility to Self**

The licensed practitioner must:

- Understand the importance of personal safety and that practitioners are not obligated to place him / her in harm's way beyond what a reasonable licensed practitioner would do
- Comply with health and workplace safety policies, procedures and legislation
- Comply with emergency medical response and transport vehicle operation policies, procedures and legislation
- Maintain professional accountability, integrity, good character and reputation
- Demonstrate accountability for actions in practice
- Maintain and improve professional competencies by actively engaging in the Manitoba Continuing Competency for Paramedics Program (MCCPP) and other opportunities for lifelong learning
- Maintain impartiality and recognize conflicts of interest
- Understand the Office of Medical Director's, structure, roles, responsibilities, and direction, as well as its authority for delegating permissions to paramedics