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# The Endocrine Society Code of Ethics

## Introduction

The Endocrine Society (“Society”) is committed to uniting, leading and growing the endocrine community to accelerate scientific breakthroughs and improve health worldwide. The Society also recognizes that our members work within institutions with oversight from national, international and professional regulatory bodies that uphold the highest standards of ethical and responsible behaviors. These are implemented locally, nationally and internationally, and the Society expects all its members to fully comply with this regulatory framework. In addition, membership in the Society carries a responsibility to uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct in all Society engagements, including event participation, publications, and other Society-related activities.

The purpose of the Code of Ethics (“Code”) is to make Society members and the public at large aware that Society members are expected to maintain a high level of ethical behavior in their engagements with the Society as well as in their professional careers. Commitment to the Code is a condition of membership in the Society and, pursuant to the Society Bylaws, may serve as a basis for disciplinary action by the Society for certain violations or repeated violations by a Society member. The Code is not intended to be exhaustive and cannot account for every possible situation. Through this Code, Society members commit themselves to these aspirational principles:

- 1. Endocrine Society members shall comply with all applicable international, federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing their practices.**

- 1. Adherence to Research and Professional Standards**

Members are expected to uphold the highest standards of professional conduct in research and clinical care, including responsible performance and reporting of research, ethical interactions with colleagues, and appropriate management, sharing, and protection of data. Members must adhere to, and educate trainees about, regulations governing the safe and ethical conduct of research.

- 2. Respect and Non-Discrimination in Clinical Care**

Members engaged in clinical practice shall treat all patients with dignity and respect, without discrimination based on race, ethnicity, nationality, sex,

gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or other protected characteristics.

**3. Patient-Centered Care and Ethical Principles**

Patients' choices must be respected. Members act in the best interests of their patients and be guided by the principles of beneficence and non-maleficence.

**4. Research Presentation and Publication Standards**

Members who present research at Society-sponsored events or publish in Society journals must comply with applicable research, authorship, and publication guidelines as outlined by the Society.

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**II. Members shall conduct themselves with integrity, accountability, and shall foster a supportive and welcoming environment.**

**1. Code of Conduct**

Members shall abide by the Society Code of Conduct at all Society events, whether online or in person.

**2. Treat Others with Respect**

Society members treat all individuals with dignity, courtesy, and respect, including colleagues, trainees, staff, patients, partners, and members of the public.

**3. Act with Integrity and Accountability**

Members conduct themselves with honesty, integrity, and accountability in all interactions with one another and with the Society. This includes the appropriate use of Society platforms and resources, respect for confidentiality, and adherence to applicable Society policies, laws, and regulations. Members representing the Society must ensure their actions and communications align with the Society's mission, values, and reputation.

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**III. Members shall not make false representations regarding their membership or position in the Society**

**1. Representation of Official Positions**

Members shall not present personal scientific opinions or views as official positions of the Society or otherwise imply that they speak on behalf of the Society, unless expressly authorized to do so.

**2. Commercial Use Prohibited**

Members shall not use their affiliation with the Society for commercial purposes, including advertisements or endorsements.

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**IV. Members uphold the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, accuracy and respect in all digital and online environments when representing the Society.**

**1. Professionalism**

Members shall conduct themselves online in a manner consistent with the ethical standards of the medical and scientific professions. Digital communications must not include harassment, discrimination, defamatory statements, or unprofessional behavior.

**2. Confidentiality and Scientific Integrity**

Members must safeguard protected health information, confidential Society materials, and unpublished guidelines or research content. Such information must never be shared without explicit written authorization. When discussing scientific or clinical topics, members should clearly distinguish personal opinions from established scientific consensus.

**3. Compliance with Law and Policy**

Digital communications must comply with applicable privacy laws, intellectual property laws, and the policies of the member's employer or institution.

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V. **Members shall comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy as applicable and shall not engage in any activity that may present a conflict of interest in their engagement with the Society,**

**1. Disclosure Requirement**

Individuals participating in governance, guideline development, educational programming, publications, or participating in Society business in any way must disclose actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest when they arise.

**2. Management of Conflicts**

The Society has procedures to review and manage disclosed conflicts to protect objectivity and independence. Significant conflicts may be reviewed and adjudicated by the Ethics and Professionalism Committee (EPC). These processes shall be implemented in conjunction with the Society's Conflict of Interest Policy, as adopted and amended by the Board of Directors.

The Endocrine Society's Code of Ethics reflects our collective commitment to scientific excellence, professional integrity, and respect for one another and the patients and communities we **serve**.