University of Glasgow

School of Medicine, Dentistry & Nursing

Undergraduate Medical School Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise

Students are required at all times to be of good behaviour and to observe all regulations which may be made from time to time by the University. A student who is registered for the programme of study leading to the degree of MBChB is required during practical training to act in a professional role in relation to patients and therefore as a condition of matriculation undertakes to comply with the principles of this Code of Professional Conduct.

Purpose of the Code

The aims of the Code are to promote and develop behaviour which will achieve the standards required for good medical practice. This will:

- protect present and future patients, children, clients or service users;
- protect the health and well -being of the student and to ensure that the student is provided with appropriate advice concerning the requirements of the General Medical Council (GMC);
- protect the University of Glasgow against legal action brought by someone claiming to have suffered loss as a result of the student proving during training or after qualification to be unfit to practise.

Core Values

The Undergraduate Medical School at the University of Glasgow adheres to a set of core values, which underpin its activities in education and research and overall professional conduct, which embody:

- the habit of truth;
- respect for others;
- caring;
- partnership;
- creativity;
- social justice.

A student registered on the programme of study leading to the degree of MBChB is expected to adhere to these values, to be honest and trustworthy and to follow at all times the Code of Professional Conduct. In the unlikely and unfortunate event that the Code is not followed the Fitness to Practise procedures will be invoked.

Code of Practice

As a Medical Student of the University of Glasgow, I shall:

- be honest and trustworthy;
- make the safety and care of patients my first concern;
- treat every patient politely and with consideration;
- respect each patient's right to privacy and dignity
- listen to patients and respect their views;
- give clear and appropriate explanations to patients;
- always seek any necessary permission and consent for my activities

- always make it clear to patients that I am a student and not a qualified doctor;
- avoid recommending treatment or action that might be interpreted as professional medical advice; develop, practise and maintain my skills and knowledge to the best of my ability, and ensure they are up-to date;
- recognise and act within the limits of my competence;
- respect and protect confidential information;
- ensure that my personal beliefs do not prejudice my dealings with patients.
- treat colleagues with courtesy and respect;
- report to the Head of the Medical School any action by students or staff which might put
- patients/clients/students/service users at risk;
- respect a patient/carer/relative's trust in me.
- This Code of Practice is based upon "The Duties of a Doctor" Good Medical Practice, http://www.gmc-uk.org/guidance/good_medical_practice/duties_of_a_doctor.asp

Procedure for Consideration of Fitness to Practise

The procedure for determining whether a student is fit to practise is contained in the University http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/policies/calendar/calendar2016-17/feesandgeneral/studentsupportandconductmatters/procedurefordeterminingfitnesstopractise/#/36.7.3referraltotheschoolfitnesstopractisecommittee

A student shall be referred to the School Fitness to Practise Committee in the following circumstances:
a) where a minor incident is repeated and is considered by the Fitness to Practise Officer to constitute a pattern of behaviour which is unprofessional and/or not compliant with the School Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise;

b) where a review of the progress made by the student following action agreed under the informal procedure indicates that there remains a concern about unprofessional behaviour and/or a potential breach of the School Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise;

c) where a reported concern is deemed by the Fitness to Practise Officer to be of sufficient seriousness to warrant immediate referral to the School Fitness to Practise Committee rather than resolution by the informal procedure.

Where a student has failed to comply with the Undergraduate Medical School Code of Professional Conduct and Fitness to Practise the student may be required to leave the programme of study.

GMC Guidance

http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/achieving_good_medical_practice.asp

http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/professional_behaviour.asp