

DIETITIANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Statement of Ethical Practice

Revised May 2006

The objective of the Dietitians Association of Australia's (DAA) *Statement of Ethical Practice* is to identify fundamental values and principles for members.

The *Statement of Ethical Practice* offers guidance when making decisions. It does not specify how to make decisions or to act in particular situations.

Ethical standards help ensure consistent approaches and high standards.

The *Statement of Ethical Practice* indicates to the community, values which members hold.

DAA encourages debate and discussion to keep the members abreast of contemporary issues.

DAA also subscribes to the principles and aspirations of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and other international conventions derived from the Declaration.

A member embraces the values and principles in DAA's mission:

<p>'supporting members; advocating for better food, better health, better living for all.'</p>
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Values and Principles

Being ethical means:

Members of DAA act lawfully and responsibly and are accountable for their decision making.

Members will

- act within the letter and the spirit of the law and accept the standards of DAA.
- be accountable for their decision making and have a moral and legal obligation for the provision of safe and competent service delivery.
- have an ethical responsibility to report unsafe and unethical practice and support colleagues who appropriately notify the relevant authorities of such practice.
- respect the collaborative nature of comprehensive health care with recognition and respect for the perspective and expertise of other health care professionals.
- acknowledge the contribution of colleagues and any other sources of original material in their work.

Members of DAA will be honest and fair with members of the public, colleagues, employers and employees.

Members will

- ensure that they do not exploit relationships with clients for emotional, sexual or financial gain.
- identify and manage conflicts of interest.
- not use inaccurate or misleading ways to promote their services or products, or accept undisclosed private financial benefits.
- treat their colleagues with fairness, honesty, courtesy, respect and good faith.
- apply natural justice when dealing with clients and colleagues.
- provide services within the legal requirements of occupational health, welfare and safety and workplace requirements.

Members of DAA will respect individual's needs, values, culture and privacy.

Members will

- ensure provision of non-discriminatory services to all people regardless of age, colour, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, race, and mental or physical status.
- respect the rights of individuals to make informed choices.
- respect the confidences and trust in their relationships with clients.
- promote a professional relationship and maintain appropriate professional boundaries between themselves and those for whom they provide services.

Members of DAA will maintain their professional competence and provide quality services for all people.

Members will

- recognise the limits of competence, referring to the most appropriate provider if necessary.
- continually update and extend professional knowledge and skills through such activities as attending professional development or seeking a mentor.
- be guided by the requirements of current evidence based practice.
- understand and respect diversity of dietetic practice.
- Promote an ecological, social and economic environment which supports health and well being.