**Devki Mahaveer Homoeopathic Medical College & Research Hospital**

**Homoeopathic Practitioners - (Professional Conduct, Etiquette & Code of Ethics)**

**Regulations 1982**

**(As amended as per notification published in the Official Gazette dated July 12, 2014)**

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**Hand Book For Homoeopathic Students**

**I GENERAL PRINCIPLES Duration of course: 20 hrs.**

1. **Character of Medical Practitioner:**

The primary object of the medical profession is to render service to humanity with full respect for the dignity of man; financial reward is a subordinate consideration. Whosoever chooses this profession assumes the obligation to conduct him in accordance with its ideals.

A practitioner of Homoeopathy shall be an upright man, instructed in the art of healing. He shall keep himself pure in character and be diligent in caring for the sick. He shall be modest, sober, patient and prompt and do his duty without anxiety, and shall be pious and conduct himself with propriety in his profession and in all the actions of his life.

1. **Standards of Character and Morals:**

The medical profession expects from its members the highest level of character and morals, and every practitioner of Homoeopathy owes to the profession and to the public alike a duty to attain such a level. It shall be incumbent on a practitioner of Homoeopathy to be temperate in all matters, for the practice of medicine requires unremitting exercise of a clear and vigorous mind.

1. **Practitioner's Responsibility:**

A practitioner of Homoeopathy shall merit the confidence of patients entrusted to his care, rendering to each full measure of service and devotion. The honored ideals of the medical profession imply that the responsibilities of a practitioner of Homoeopathy extend not only to individuals but also to the entire society.

(3A) (i) A registered medical practitioner shall maintain a Register of Medical Certificates containing the details of the medical certificates issued by him which shall be in the manner specified in Appendix-1.

(ii) While issuing medical certificate referred to in sub-regulation (1), he shall enter the identification mark of the patient and keep a copy of the same.

(iii) The medical practitioner shall obtain the signature or thumb mark of the patient and record at least one identification mark and address of the patient on the medical certificate.

**4. (1) Advertising**

Solicitation of patients directly or indirectly by a practitioner of Homoeopathy either personally or by advertisement in the newspapers, by placards or by the distribution of circular cards or handbills is unethical.

A practitioner of Homoeopathy shall not make use of, or permit others to make use of, him or his name as a subject of any form or manner of advertising or publicity through lay channels which shall be of such a character as to invite attention to him or to his professional position or skill or as would ordinarily result in his self-aggrandisement provided that a practitioner of Homoeopathy is permitted formal announcement in press about the following matters, namely:-

1. the starting of his practice;
2. change of the type of practice;
3. change of address;
4. temporary absence from duty;.
5. resumption of practice
6. succeeding to another's practice.

(2) He shall further not advertise himself directly or indirectly through price lists or publicity materials of manufacturing firms or traders with whom he may be connected in any capacity, nor shall he publish cases, operations or letters of thanks from patients in non-professional newspapers or journals provided it shall be permissible for him to publish his name in connection with a prospectus or a director's or a technical expert's report

**5. Payment of Professional Service:**

(1) A practitioner of Homoeopathy engaged in the practice of medicine shall limit the sources of his income to fees received from professional activities for services rendered to the patient. Remuneration received for such services shall be in the form and amount specifically announced to the patient at the time the service is rendered; in all other cases he shall deem it a point of honour to adhere to the compensation for professional services prevailing in the community in which he practices.

(2) Fees are reducible at the discretion of the practitioner of Homoeopathy and he shall always recognize poverty as presenting valid claims for gratuitous services;

(3) It shall be unethical to enter into a contract of "no cure no payment";

**6. Rebates and Commission:**

A practitioner of Homoeopathy shall not give, solicit or receive, nor shall he offer to give, solicit or receive, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in consideration for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment nor shall he receive any commission or other benefit from a professional colleague, trader of appliances, dentist or an occulist. (or from laboratory or diagnostic centres).

7. **Behaviour Towards Patients**:

The demeanour of a practitioner of Homoeopathy towards his patients shall always be courteous, sympathetic, friendly and helpful. Every patient shall be treated with attention and consideration.

8. **Visits:** A practitioner of Homoeopathy shall endeavour to add to the comfort of the sick by making his visits at the hour indicated to the patients.

9. **Prognosis:**

(1) The practitioner of Homoeopathy shall neither exaggerate nor minimize the gravity of a patient's condition. He shall ensure that the patient, his relatives or responsible friends have such knowledge of the patient's condition as will serve the best interest of the patient and his family.