

## **Code of Ethics**

### **Preamble**

The Code of Ethics of the Australian Council for the Certification of the Medical Laboratory Scientific Workforce sets forth the principles and standards by which clinical laboratory professionals practice their profession.

### **Duty to the Patient**

Clinical laboratory professionals are accountable for the quality and integrity of the laboratory services they provide. This obligation includes maintaining individual competence in judgement and performance and striving to safeguard the patient from incompetent or illegal practice by others.

Clinical laboratory professionals maintain high standards of practice. They exercise sound judgment in establishing, performing and evaluating laboratory testing.

Clinical laboratory professionals maintain strict confidentiality of patient information and test results. They safeguard the dignity and privacy of patients and any samples removed from them. They provide accurate information to other health care professionals about the services they provide.

### **Duty to Colleagues and the Profession**

Clinical laboratory professionals uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of our profession and strive to maintain a reputation of honesty, integrity and reliability. They contribute to the advancement of the profession by improving the body of knowledge, adopting scientific advances that benefit the patient, maintaining high standards of practice and education, and seeking fair socio-economic working conditions for members of the profession.

Clinical laboratory professionals actively strive to establish cooperative and respectful working relationships with other health care professionals with the primary objective of ensuring a high standard of care for the patients they serve.

Clinical laboratory professionals demonstrate honesty and integrity in business dealings with manufacturers, suppliers, competitors and customers.

### **Duty to Society**

As practitioners of an autonomous profession, clinical laboratory professionals have the responsibility to contribute from their sphere of professional competence to the general well being of the community.

Clinical laboratory professionals comply with relevant laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of clinical laboratory science and actively seek, within the dictates of their consciences, to change those which do not meet the high standards of care and practice to which the profession is committed.

Clinical laboratory professionals ensure the cost-effective application of health-care pathology funds, guarding against waste, inefficiency and unnecessary duplication.

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## **Pledge to the Profession**

*As a clinical laboratory professional, I strive to:*

- *Maintain and promote standards of excellence in performing and advancing the art and science of my profession.*
- *Facilitate the training and continuing education of new members of the profession.*
- *Preserve the dignity and privacy of others.*
- *Uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of our profession.*
- *Seek to establish cooperative and respectful working relationships with other health professionals.*
- *Contribute to the general well being of the community.*

**I will actively demonstrate my commitment to these responsibilities throughout my professional life.**