

# Free and Healthy Children International (FHCiA) Professional Code of Ethics for FHCiA HP<sub>x</sub> Practitioners

The FHCiA Board recommends the following ethical guidelines for supervision of Homeoprophylaxis (HPx) and general practice of Homeopathy. All FHCiA HPx Practitioners agree to the following:

## 1. Key Principles

Free and Healthy Children International (FHCiA) is a membership association. Members of FHCiA recognize that ethical practice is a quality that arises within the person or practitioner from the pursuit of truth. It is the duty of the practitioner to foster and evaluate their actions and participation in accordance with this source.

FHCiA operates on a model of benevolence between a triad of members: HPx Families, HPx Practitioners, and the FHCi Board, by way of working within the honor system of individual responsibility and integrity towards the mission and financial obligations described in the FHCi Bylaws.

HPx Practitioners are entrusted, as agents of FHCiA, to provide access to HPx through registration as Patrons with FHCi, to act in accordance with their better judgement towards the health of children, individual family members, and their fiscal responsibilities to FHCiA. Furthermore, HPx Practitioners shall:

- 1.1 Regard the individual needs of family members as a priority, to help protect the immune systems of children and adults.
- 1.2 Respect the privacy and dignity of family members.
- 1.3 Treat everyone fairly, respectfully, sensitively and appropriately without discrimination.
- 1.4 Work to foster and maintain the trust of individual family members and the public.
- 1.5 Listen actively and respect each individual's views and their right to personal choice.
- 1.6 Take responsibility for their own personal health and encourage family members to take responsibility for their own health, through discussion and provision of information.
- 1.7 Provide comprehensive clear and balanced information to allow family members to make informed choices.
- 1.8 Respect and protect the family member's rights to privacy and confidentiality.
- 1.9 Work only within the boundaries of their own competence and seek supervision when needed.
- 1.10 Respond promptly and constructively to concerns, criticisms, and complaints.
- 1.11 Inform family members of the Adverse Event Reporting Procedure (located on the FHCiA website) if they feel an adverse event has occurred.
- 1.12 Respect the skills of other healthcare professionals, and where possible work in cooperation with them.

# 2. Confidentiality

2.1 All FHCiA intake/membership forms and consultation notes shall be kept in a secure, locked and confidential space at all times, access being restricted to the HPx Practitioner and his/her assistants. All

obsolete personal consultation notes shall be disposed of in a confidential manner such as document shredding and disposed of in an environmentally acceptable manner. These forms are the property of FHCiA, to be kept on file by the HPx Practitioner for a period of seven years from the HPx Family member's commencement of the HPx Program. If at any time, the FHCiA Board requests a copy, one shall be provided.

- 2.2 The HPx Practitioner shall not communicate externally the contents of the family member's personal notes in any form, or any information obtained within the HPx Supervision relationship.
- 2.3 No report shall be given to a third party without the consent of the HPx Family member concerned.
- 2.4 Due to the membership platform of FHCiA, all FHCiA intake papers are excluded from HIPPA regulations which means that no local, state, or federal agency is permitted to have access to these records without the express permission of the HPx Family Member.
- 2.5 The HPx Practitioner shall honor the confidentiality of all HPx Family members whose cases are used in published articles, case conference presentations, or training lectures by withholding/changing names and all identifying details. A written consent form must be obtained from the HPx Family member in order to teach, present or publish any part of the case history (written/video).

## 3. FHCi Patron Consent

- 3.1 Be sure to have all HPx Family members sign and initial each page of the FHCiA intake documents, as provided on the FHCiA website. These should include, but are not limited to, a statement that you are not a doctor or physician and that you do not treat any disease or condition.
- 3.2 Your qualifications, training, and certifications are to be clearly listed on the informed consent form given to each HPx Family member.
- 3.3 Your fees are to be clearly listed on the informed consent form as well as what is included in your fee.
- 3.4 Consultation fees are reasonably comparable to the pricing guidelines set by FHCiA.

#### 4. Professional Boundaries

- 4.1 Clear boundaries need to be observed by all parties to a HPx Practitioner member/HPx Family member relationship. A HPx Practitioner shall not engage in any sexual activity with a client. Only after the formal relationship has been concluded, with full agreement and understanding on both sides, may any other kind of relationship be contemplated.
- 4.2 An HPx Practitioner is responsible for assuming an influential position as a teacher or mentor and must interact with students appropriately. He/she shall avoid any fraternization which exploits that position of influence.

## 5. Responsibility to Maintaining the Integrity of the Professional Community

- 5.1 The honor and reputation of our organization comes from the integrity and respect that is maintained by each member of our community towards each other.
- 5.2 HPx Practitioners shall not disparage or speak disrespectfully of any fellow HPx Practitioner in public, or to clients, or students.
- 5.3 HPx Practitioners shall support and assist each other in their study and practice.

- 5.4 In writing or speaking, if the HPx Practitioner is aware that he/she is directly using a colleague's ideas, he/she shall reference these accordingly and give due respect.
- 5.5 An HPx Practitioner shall not compare herself/himself to other HPx Practitioners (directly or indirectly) in any form of advertising.

### 6. Scope of Practice and Representation

- 6.1 The HPx Practitioner shall inform each client that the goal of HPx is to help strengthen the constitution and thereby raise the general level of health of the client. It is not to treat any particular disease or condition but to stimulate the vital force.
- 6.2 The HPx Practitioner shall not use the title "Doctor" unless licensed as an MD, DO, ND, DC, OMD, etc., by the state in which he/she practices. If you are called a doctor, always correct them. This also applies to those who have a medical degree which is not accepted in the country in which you are practicing (USA or Canada). This applies especially if you have a doctorate in another field. Do not claim to have a doctorate (PhD) unless you have one from a fully accredited university in a related field. Do not claim a doctorate for a distance learning degree.
- 6.3 HPx Practitioners shall fully declare their education, credentials, and membership association on their professional website(s) and social media platforms.
- 6.3 The HPx Practitioner shall promote Homeopathy and Homeoprophylaxis through appropriate research. All research findings and clinical experiences shall be documented methodically, honestly and without distortion. All speculative theories shall be stated as such and clearly distinguished.
- 6.4 The HPx Practitioner shall present his/her level of education, years and extent of practice, and not exaggerate the number of HPx Families they are supervising or have supervised.

#### 7. Continuing Education

- 7.1 The HPx Practitioner is responsible for his/her continuing personal and professional development by undertaking further training and study in Homeopathy and HPx, conferring with colleagues and acquiring knowledge.
- 7.2 The HPx Practitioner shall meet the required yearly continuing education credits, as per FHCiA guidelines.
- 7.3 The HPx Practitioner shall attend or view all FHCiA mandatory meetings, consisting of FHCiA program updates.

## 8. Public Outreach, Advertising Claims, and Social Media

- 8.1 The FHCiA Board recommends that HPx Practitioners promote HPx as a member of the FHCiA collective, rather than self-promotion.
- 8.2 HPx Practitioners shall not seek to attract business unfairly and unprofessionally, in any way which could discredit the reputation of FHCi, Homeoprophylaxis, or Homeopathic practice.
- 8.3 HPx Practitioners shall not state they treat any disease, condition or ailment, or imply that he/she can do so. The HPx Practitioner may state that HPx and/or Homeopathy work with the immune system and energetics of the body so it can overcome disease. Caution should be taken when speaking or writing about specific treatments of particular diseases or conditions. An HPx Practitioner may give lectures and talks on how homeopathy addresses specific illness and which remedies have been used to address a specific illness (and

place advertisements for these) - but only if the advertisement and/or lecture makes clear that you are using HPx and/or Homeopathy to raise the level of health of a person so that the problem recedes and susceptibility to contraction reduces.

- 8.4 HPx Practitioners shall not refer to HPx as a "homeopathic vaccine," "an effective vaccine" or a "safe vaccine." HPx Practitioners may explain that "HPx is a process of immunization," and may say that "HPx is a form of immune system education to prepare for infectious disease."
- 8.5 HPx Practitioners may say "HPx has a robust track record of controlling, managing and preventing outbreaks of infectious diseases on a large scale", "HPx is being used in developing countries to manage epidemics", and "More reliable evidence of its effectiveness is steadily emerging".
- 8.6 HPx Practitioners may say, "Long-term research studies demonstrate that HPx provides effectiveness towards reducing infectious disease expression."
- 8.7 HPx Practitioners shall not promise that HPx will provide complete immunity to the infectious disease corresponding to the nosode. No method of health promotion is 100% effective.
- 8.8 HPx Practitioners shall not promise that HPx will produce antibodies or titers for disease. You may say that "HPx may produce titers, as has anecdotally been found in a minority of cases in clinical practice, but the goal of HPx is to educate the immune system, not to produce titers."
- 8.9 HPx Practitioners shall not make remedy suggestions on social media platforms to people with or without an established practitioner relationship.
- 8.10 HPx Practitioners shall encourage families seeking HPx advice on social media platforms, to visit the FHCiA website to find learn more and become a Patron of FHCi.
- 8.11 HPx Practitioners are cautioned that there is no scope of practice, within any safe harbor law, which has the provisions of HPx or homeopathic recommendations on social media platforms.
- 8.12 It is within professional conduct for HPx Practitioners to recommend their homeopathic services on social media platforms.
- 8.13 It is within professional conduct for HPx Practitioners to provide information about homeopathic philosophy and understanding on social media platforms.
- 8.14 It is ethical for HPx Practitioners to discuss cases on closed group HPx and homeopathy social media platforms if family member's name, location, or identifying features about them are withheld.

# 9. FHCiA WhatsApp Supervision Platform

- 9.1 HPx Practitioners and Board Members may use this platform to discuss cases, current events, peer supported administrative assistance, and general conversations regarding HPx and practice. All other FHCi administrative assistance must be through email with administration.
- 9.2 It is understood that no personal health information (PHI) regarding cases is to be shared from HP Practitioners or the Administration that could identify said person. Case details will be held in confidence within the platform. No images or case details relating to an individual's health status or outcome are to be shared outside of the platform.

- 9.3 It is to be understood that social media articles and videos sourced from outside the platform must be vetted prior to sharing for relevance, accuracy, content, current information, and truth, and are to be on point to the purpose of the platform of FHCi and FHCiA and current affairs.
- 9.4 This platform is not to be used to discuss board matters.
- 9.5 There shall be no disclosures regarding FHCiA members, member lists, or whether a person may or may not be a member of FHCiA.

# 10. Legal

Be sure to research the laws on the practice of medicine without a license in your state or province and be aware of what terms and actions are not allowed.

#### 11. International

In order to practice Homeoprophylaxis ethically within the UK, it is recommended that HPx Practitioners adhere to the Society of Homeopaths formal code of ethics for the use of Homeoprophylaxis.

## 11. Transferring Supervision

As per FHCiA Bylaws.

\* Acknowledgement - this list was largely compiled by referencing the following Homeopathic organizations' codes of ethics: North American Society of Homeopaths (NASH), Council for Homeopathic Certification (CHC), and The Society of Homeopaths, UK (SOH), with gratitude to these organizations.