



COLONIC HYDROTHERAPY

Is a form of water treatment for the elimination of bowel waste and exercise to the large intestine for the benefit of restoring proper absorption, health and well being to the body.

RULES AND CODE OF ETHICS THE INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL COLON HYDROTHERAPISTS

This ethical code has been designed to regulate the relationship between fellow Members of this Institute to establish and maintain high standard of professional and personal conduct.

1. GENERAL:

- 1.1 Members should practice their profession with integrity and dignity.
- 1.2 The highest standards must be maintained in conduct, in the care of the patient and in professional expertise.
- 1.3 National and local legislation must be adhered to.
- 1.4 Members should advise the Secretary of the Association immediately of any police or local authority enquiry into their practice.
- 1.5 Full professional indemnity insurance must be continuously maintained in accordance with the Association's recommendations and public liability insurance should be held.
- 1.6 Members should not use the title "Doctor"¹ with reference to their colonic practice, unless it is a genuine medical qualification, in which case the full title of the degree and its origin should be stated.

1.7 Members should not refer to an assistant as "nurse", unless they hold a nursing qualification recognised by the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing and Midwifery.

1.8 Members should not make a physical examination of or treat a child under 16 years of age, except in the presence of a parent or guardian, having firstly obtained a signed statement to the following effect:

I have been warned by _____ that according to the law I should consult a doctor concerning the health of my child (name of child)
Signed _____ (parent or guardian)
Signed _____ (witness)

1.9 Therapists shall report research findings and clinical experience methodically, honestly and without distortion. Speculative theories shall be stated to be so.

1.10 Members have an obligation to continue their professional development by keeping abreast of developments within the field of colonic hydrotherapy and by attending seminars, study days, educational courses and the like in related subjects. A minimum of 30 hours per annum continued professional development study or teaching should be undertaken, and this should be evidenced annually.

1.11 Probationary Members will be assigned a "Mentor", a committee member, or a senior member of the association tasked by the committee, to be a point of reference during the first six months of probation. During this period, a series of monthly meetings should be held to discuss case notes, treatments and the general progress of the probationer. At the end of this period the probationer should administer one treatment observed by the mentor. Mentors may credit this time as study hours assistance. Professional advice is always given to a Member without a fee.

2. RELATIONSHIP WITH PATIENTS:

2.1 A Member shall never betray the confidence of a patient, nor divulge diagnostic findings acquired during a consultation or in the course of professional treatment to anyone without the

consent of the patient, except when required to do so by law, or where failure to take action would constitute a menace or danger to the patient or to another member of the community. The practitioner must also resist the temptation to divulge that an eminent person is his patient.

2.2 A Member shall be free to choose whom he/she shall serve professionally.

2.3 Having accepted a patient in the course of his practice, a Member shall not neglect or abandon the case before recovery, without due notice to the patient, his relatives or friends, or until another practitioner has accepted responsibility.

2.4 when a patients' condition, or lack of progress, gives cause for anxiety, the Member should not hesitate to call for a second opinion, either from another Member or from another appropriate practitioner or specialist. A Member so called as consultant shall communicate only through the Member in charge of the case, and not directly to the patient or relatives.

2.5 A Member shall not suggest that a patient is worse than he/she really is, or that he/she has a condition not evidently present, and not make any promises nor give any guarantee of the results of treatment.

2.6 On deciding to retire or move from a practice, Members must inform all current patients of their intention, and of any arrangements made for the transfer of the practice to another therapist Records should be kept for a minimum of 7 years.

2.7 A testimonial or commendatory letter should never be solicited, but if one is spontaneously forthcoming, it should not be exhibited or passed on and certainly not published, without the patient's consent.

2.8 Members are expected to charge reasonable fees comparable with those of their fellow Members and other professionals. Where a case is taken on a reduced fee basis, the quality of the service should be unchanged.

2.9 Members, when receiving a referral through

the Association register, shall not divert colonic treatment to another therapy unless clinically indicated, and shall give a detailed account of the procedure and costs involved.

3. PREMISES:

3.1 Premises must reach the standards prescribed in the Associations "Guide to Good Practise" leaflet.

3.2 All premises are subject to inspection, by appointment, by a member of the Executive Committee before becoming operational. All premises are subject to periodic re-inspection as deemed necessary by the committee. Members and prospective members are expected to make their premises and themselves available at reasonable notice. A charge will be levied for inspections.

3.3 A Member or prospective member being inspected for the first time shall administer one treatment under the observation of the inspector.

3.4 A Member or prospective member shall not administer any form of colonic hydrotherapy treatment in unapproved premises.

4. PROCEDURE IN EXAMINATION AND TREATMENT OF PATIENTS:

4.1 The patient should at all times be prepared in an appropriate manner for the examination or treatment to be received. An explanation of the treatment and provision of suitable attire (gown/towel) is mandatory.

4.2 Any type of physical examination should be undertaken only with the full consent of the patient, and signed consent should be taken.

4.3 A case history should be taken and recorded This should include Name, Address, telephone number, Date of Birth, essential details of medical history, dates of treatment and details of treatments. Physical examination procedures should be carried out as relevant to the case.

4.4 A Member shall not consent to induce abortion or sterility, or to attempt to do so by any means whatsoever.

5. MALPRACTICE:

5.1 In the case of threatened legal proceedings being taken against a Member by a patient, the following procedure should be followed as advised by the Association's Insurance Brokers:-

- Do not admit or acknowledge anything.
- Have no communication whatsoever with the complainant but report all circumstances immediately to your insurance broker and to a committee member of the Association by telephone and additionally report fully to them by first post.

It is recommended that a legal representative should be present at any interviews, and that statements should not be made without the advice of such an authority.

6. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEMBERS:

6.1 Members of the Association are colleagues and there should be close co-operation among themselves. There should be no sense of competition between them.

6.2 A Member shall not criticise, condemn or belittle a colleague in the presence of a patient or other layman.

6.3 A Member shall not undertake a case which, to his knowledge, is under the care of another Member, except with the consent of that Member. Nor shall he use any means to persuade a patient to leave another Member to become his patient.

6.4 When a Member undertakes the treatment of a patient because the patient's own practitioner is not available, he should render all assistance he can. At the earliest opportunity, he should return the patient to his own practitioner and supply his colleague with relevant details of the case whilst under his care.

6.5 If a patient moves to another district or for any reason desires to change from one Member to another, he or she shall always be free to do so. Detailed patient records shall be forwarded directly to the Member newly in charge.

6.6 A Member shall not accept any form of

commission or split fees in cases referred by a colleague, nor shall he offer any reduction of fees for the purpose of enticing patients from another Member.

6.7 A Member shall respond graciously to a request from any colleague requiring his professional

6.8 Where acting as an assistant or locum tenens, a member may not procure for the benefit of another practice any patients of the principal's practice, neither for the duration nor within six months of the termination of the agreement, without written consent of the principal.

6.9 Only a fully Registered Therapist Member of the I.P.C.H. may act as an assistant or locum tenens to another registered therapist.

6.10 where a therapist has good reason to believe a fellow therapist has committed misconduct or has any complaint whatsoever about him/her, a confidential report should be made to an officer of the Institute of professional Colon Hydrotherapy, and the therapist concerned will be informed.

7. RELATIONSHIP WITH PRACTITIONERS:

7.1 In the interest of professional unity and public goodwill, Members are advised against speaking or writing disparagingly of others associated with the healing arts, including the medical profession and qualified Colonic Therapists who are not members of IPCH.

8. RULES:

8.1 A Member shall not at any time intentionally misinform a patient as to his professional qualifications.

8.2 A Member may use the initials "R.T." - Registered Therapist.

9. PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ADVERTISING:

9.1 No Member practitioner should undertake to diagnose and/or treat a patient without the patient presenting himself or herself personally at the consultative interview and examination.

9.2 A Member shall not advertise or conduct any training in Colon Hydrotherapy unless authorised to do so by the IPCH.

9.3 A Member shall not advertise by the use of handbills, circulars or posters, the press, radio or TV without clearing with the Executive Committee first

9.4 Any sign or name-plate shall be in conformity with professional dignity. Letter-headings, cards and account forms shall be in a strictly professional style.

9.5 Members may write articles, give public lectures, or conduct adult education classes, etc., of an instructive and educational nature, or use broadcasting media, attend exhibitions, for the same purpose, providing participation is conducted in a legal, decent and honest manner, and providing the professional practice is promoted rather than the individual.

9.6 Members shall not use their membership qualifications together with their names for the commercialising of any product without prior consent.

9.7 Members shall not disclose confidential matters pertaining to the IPCH and its business.

10. DISCIPLINARY AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES:

10.1 Verbal or lesser complaints against Members will be dealt with speedily by the Chairman or a committee member. Written complaints against members, which are obviously not frivolous or trivial, will be heard by a disciplinary committee composed of a chairman, a full member of IPCH and an external member. This committee may be appointed on an ad hoc. The Chairman shall in all cases of equality have a casting as well as a deliberate vote.

10.2 Any formal written complaint will be immediately acknowledged by the person receiving the complaint, and will be passed immediately to the disciplinary committee.

10.3 The disciplinary committee is responsible for obtaining adequate details in writing from the

person or organisation lodging the complaint and informing the executive committee as necessary.

10.4 Immediately the formal written complaint is lodged in sufficient detail, a copy of the complaint will be sent to the member who is the subject of the complaint requesting agreement or rebuttal within 14 days. Simultaneously, the person or organisation lodging the complaint will be sent a written confirmation that the complaint is being investigated.

10.5 Within 14 days of receipt of the written submission, or within 14 days of the time allowed for agreement or rebuttal, whichever is the shortest, the disciplinary committee will discuss the complaint. They may request the attendance of either party to provide further information, or of material witnesses.

10.6 Having considered the complaint and rebuttal (if any), the disciplinary committee will submit their chosen course of action within 14 days.

10.9 The final decision of the disciplinary committee is binding.

10.10 The decision will also be notified in writing to IPCH Umbrella organization: The General Regulatory Council for Complementary Therapies; and to any other professional association to which the said member belongs.

10.11 A breach of the Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics or the Constitution may constitute unprofessional conduct. Without limiting the meaning of the expression "unprofessional and dishonourable practices", a Member shall be guilty of dishonourable conduct who:

10.11a Is convicted of an offence for behaviour unbecoming a therapist

10.11b Is found to be addicted to intoxicating liquor or illicit drugs.

10.11c Signs, gives or makes any false or misleading representations, reports or certificates for any purpose whatsoever in his/her professional capacity.

10.11d In his/her capacity as a therapist neglects to do something that a reasonable therapist would do or conversely does something which a reasonable therapist would not do, or shows in any way the absence of such reasonable skill and attention, as shall have endangered the health of a patient or prolonged a patients illness or period of convalescence.

11. PENALTIES:

11.1 Penalties and warnings can be issued to Members in breach of the Code of Conduct, Code of Ethics or the Constitution, as deemed appropriate to the case and in accordance with these rules.

END - REVISED 2016