

The PDD International Society Ethics Code

The PDD Ethics Code describes the ethical and professional conduct to which all members subscribe in all aspects of their professional work. The principles are considered to be applicable to situations not specifically described in this Code, as the ideas that apply primarily to a therapeutic relationship are also applicable in non-therapeutic relationships. It should be noted that included in this Code are the relationships between supervisor/supervisee and trainer/apprentice, to which more specific references are made in the Internal Regulations. It is recognised that some members will also need to comply with the ethics codes of other professional bodies to which they belong.

"Client" has the meaning of "Patient" and "analysand" in its meaning in this document.

1. A member shall always strive to act in the best interests of the client, and this includes taking care of the therapeutic relationship and the therapist's role.
2. A member shall ensure that the client (or, when this is not possible, a responsible carer) is given information about the nature of the therapy being undertaken, and its rules for the smooth running of the process, so that there is informed consent, both initially and during the process. The information given and the client's consent will constitute a "contract" that will serve as a reference in the process.
3. A member shall maintain appropriate boundaries with clients and ensure that the therapist/client relationship is not exploited, e.g. - financially, sexually, emotionally or socially.
4. A member shall respect the client's right to self-determination, shall not knowingly seek to impose any particular set of values, moral standards or ideals on the client.
5. A member may not prohibit or encourage conduct that his or her client may wish to pursue. The psychotherapeutic action will focus on analysis, on helping the client to become aware of the reasons for the action.
6. The therapist/client relationship itself is confidential. The information received within it is confidential and should not be passed on without prior consent, unless the safety of the client, third parties or the therapist himself/herself is at risk. Clients may be advised that, in these specific circumstances, the member may breach confidentiality.
7. A member will not tolerate or encourage any action by the client that is harmful or damaging. Therefore, if the analysis referred to in point 5 is not sufficient, the member shall act accordingly even if it breaches confidentiality.
8. If clinical material is to be used for a work project, it is the member's responsibility to seek the appropriate means, including assessing whether the use of clinical material should be with the permission of the client. It is the member's responsibility to preserve the anonymity of the client.

9. In the case of research, members should clarify with clients the nature, purpose, and conditions of any research in which clients are to be involved and ensure that there is verifiable "informed consent" from the client prior to its initiation.
10. The member should terminate therapy when the time is appropriate and not prolong it by concealment or deception, whether the goals have been achieved or if after a reasonable period of time it appears that, with the means or resources at his or her disposal, he or she is unable to achieve them. In this case, he shall explain to the client the reasons and indicate which other professionals can take charge of the continuity of the therapeutic intervention. If the client wants to stop treatment, the reasons will be analysed with the client in order to avoid any 'acting out' and, if necessary, the client will be referred to another professional who can take over the continuity of the therapeutic intervention.
11. Members of the Society are responsible for monitoring and maintaining their own professional competence and their physical, mental and spiritual health. Their professional authority is based on their training and qualifications for the tasks they perform. The member must be professionally trained and specialised in the use of methods, instruments, techniques and procedures that he/she adopts in his/her work. Continuous efforts to update their professional competence are part of their work. Recognising the limits of their competence and the limitations of their techniques is a humble attitude that motivates to continue their research.
12. Derived from the above and as a manifest objective in the statutes, the members of the Society, in the exercise of their profession, shall endeavour to contribute to the progress of science, researching in their discipline, abiding by the rules and requirements of scientific work and communicating their knowledge to students and other professionals according to scientific practice and/or through teaching.
13. Without prejudice to scientific criticism as he/she deems appropriate, in the exercise of the profession, the member shall not discredit colleagues or other professionals working with the same or different methods and shall speak respectfully of other schools and types of intervention that enjoy scientific and professional credibility.
14. A member has a responsibility not to act in any way that is detrimental to the Society, the profession, colleagues, supervisees or trainees. This also extends to conduct that does not affect the Society itself.
15. A member who becomes aware of the conduct of any member who has breached this Ethics Code should act first to clarify the circumstances with the member concerned, and if found to be truthful seek a satisfactory resolution of the issues raised, and if unsuccessful report the member to the society.
16. PDD is a scientific approach to psychotherapy and coaching that is not compatible with the clinical use with patients of any other quasi-mystical methodology, such as tarot or astrology. This would include, but not limited to, dealing Tarot cards, Horoscope reading, throwing I ching coins etc.

17. Any member who fails to fulfil the professional standards of the PDD International Society will be asked to attend a meeting of the ethics committee to explain their position and consequently the committee will write a report for consideration by the Management Board.
18. The PDD professional titles awarded by the PDD International Society are only valid as long as the individual is a member of the society and under the supervision of the ethics committee to guarantee high standards of proficiency. Professional titles will be valid for four years, after which the member will need to renovate them.
19. Members are expected to continue their training in the PDD model to deepen their knowledge of the different dimensions through courses and seminars organized by the PDD International Society.