

## AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE SPECIALISTS

### Code of Conduct

#### **1 Preamble**

The Code of Conduct<sup>1</sup> of the Australasian Association of Nuclear Medicine Specialists (AANMS) sets out principles to guide nuclear medicine specialists in the provision of quality medical and imaging services to their patients, to guide the conduct of their relationships with patients, colleagues and members of the community and to reinforce the importance of maintaining the integrity and good reputation of the profession of nuclear medicine.

#### **2 Responsibilities of the Nuclear Medicine Specialist**

Fellows of the AANMS shall respect their special knowledge and professional skills and shall practise nuclear medicine with a high standard of professional practice and ethical behaviour. Fellows shall deal with patients, staff, colleagues and members of the community fairly and without discrimination. Fellows shall maintain their clinical competence and current knowledge of nuclear medicine.

Fellows shall conduct quality nuclear medicine services and render professional opinions based upon the performance of the appropriate service in combination with clinical assessment of the patient (including correlation with other clinical information and imaging as may be relevant).

Fellows shall provide appropriate personal supervision for all nuclear medicine services and shall provide a report on each service in a timely manner and undertake further investigation or treatment when appropriate. In the case of accredited training sites, a trainee may perform some, or all, of these tasks under the supervision of the nuclear medicine specialist.

Reports should be clear and concise with relevant findings emphasised. Reports should be provided to referring doctors in a timely manner. In the event that urgent, clinically significant, unexpected findings are found, reasonable attempts should be made to undertake prompt and direct communication with the referrer (and/or medical staff currently managing the patient) to allow for timely medical intervention as appropriate.

#### **3 Assuring Quality and Safety**

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#### **4 Provision of Information to Patients**

Patients shall be informed of the nature, duration and any significant risks of nuclear medicine procedures and appropriate consent obtained.

#### **5 Research**

Fellows shall follow ethical principles and standards of medical research, as enunciated by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) in Australia and the New Zealand Health Research Council (NZHRC) in New Zealand. Fellows shall particularly be concerned about radiation protection standards in any research in which they are involved.

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Ratified April 2019

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