



Code of Ethics for Biomedical Laboratory Scientists

This code of Ethics applies to Biomedical Laboratory Scientists worldwide.

As practitioners of an autonomous profession, Biomedical Laboratory Scientists have the responsibility to contribute from their sphere of professional competence to the general well being of the community.

The Code of Ethics is a resource for the profession and a support for the individual in everyday practice and in challenging situations. At the same time they are society's guarantee that the Biomedical Laboratory Scientist (BLS) practises the profession in an ethically sound manner.

Duty to the global society

■ Biomedical Laboratory Scientists shall:

- Be dedicated to the use of biomedical laboratory science to benefit humanity
- Perform biomedical research to improve and develop public health globally
- Be responsible for establishing new standards and develop existing standards for improved laboratory practice and patient safety
- Take responsibility and play a leading role towards issues regarding the global and local environment

Duty to the client

■ Biomedical Laboratory Scientists shall:

- Be responsible for the logical process from the acquisition of the specimen to the production of data and the final report of the test result
- Be accountable for the quality and integrity of biomedical laboratory services
- Exercise professional judgment, skill and care while meeting international standards
- Maintain strict confidentiality of patient/client information and results of laboratory analysis
- Safeguard the dignity and privacy of patients/clients
- Implement scientific advances that benefit the patient/client and improve the delivery of results of laboratory analysis

Duty to colleagues, the profession and other members of the health team

■ Biomedical Laboratory Scientists shall:

- Uphold and maintain the dignity and respect of the profession and maintain a reputation of honesty, integrity and reliability
- Continuously improve professional skills and knowledge
- Actively seek to establish cooperative and harmonious working relationships with other health professionals
- Provide expertise and advise, teach and counsel students, colleagues and other health professionals
- Be loyal to the policies, laws and legislations which apply to the workplace, as long as they do not conflict with the professional ethical guidelines

Code of ethics for Biomedical Laboratory Scientists were first adopted by IAMLT in Dublin 1992, and revised by IFBLS in Nairobi 2010.