

Code of ethics

I undertake:

To practise only as a member of a recognised organisation with an established Code of Ethics, and a complaint and appeals procedure.

To limit my practice to demonstrable areas of professional competence.

To carry appropriate insurance cover.

To respect the privacy of clients and hold in the strictest confidence all information obtained in the course of our work together, except where the community would otherwise be placed in imminent danger or where I would be in breach of the law were I to keep something they had told me confidential.

To consider the client's best interests before making contact with their GP or other relevant professionals and then only with the client's knowledge.

To inform clients of the limits of confidentiality in a given situation.

To give clients reasonable access to their records.

To obtain consent before recording or allowing third party observation of sessions.

To ensure that the client is clear about my fees and about the procedure for missed appointments.

To end treatment at the earliest possible time commensurate with the good health of the client.

To maintain appropriate professional boundaries with clients. I promise not to exploit past or present clients sexually, emotionally or financially.

Not to accept gifts.

If I am unable to continue treatment, to refer clients to a suitable qualified professional successor.

To keep up to date with research and new developments in my field.

To take steps to maintain and develop professional training and competence throughout my working life.

Judy Byrne