

New Zealand Association of Consulting Laboratories

Executive Secretary:

PO Box 5585 Auckland

CODE OF ETHICS

- 1 Every member of NZ Association of Consulting Laboratories shall uphold and promote the dignity, standing and reputation of all members of the association and shall conform to the principles of professional conduct as described below.
- 2 A member shall not knowingly engage in illegal work, co-operate with those who are so engaged, and shall refrain from associating with or allowing the use of their name in connection with any enterprise of a questionable character.
- 3 A member shall act in a strict spirit of personal helpfulness and fraternity towards other members of their profession.
- 4 A member shall act in a strict spirit of fairness to clients and if, in the member's opinion, work requested by clients seems to present improbability of successful result, they shall so advise the client before undertaking the work.
- 5 A member shall be conservative in all estimates, reports, testimony, etc., and especially so if these are in connection with the promotion of business enterprise.
- 6 A member shall not accept compensations, financial or otherwise, from more than one interested party without the consent of all parties involved. A member is, however, in no way debarred from accepting employment from more than one client providing there is no conflict of interest.
- 7 A member shall not use any unfair, improper or questionable methods of securing professional work or advancement, and shall decline to pay or receive secret commissions. A member may use all honourable means in competition to secure professional employment but shall not by unfair means injure, directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects or business of another practitioner.
- 8 A member shall not attempt to compete with another practitioner on the basis of professional charges, by reducing their usual charges in order to underbid, after having been informed of the charges already named by that practitioner.
- 9 A member shall, as far as possible, fix fees at a point high enough to ensure complete and adequate service, since unreasonably low charges tend towards inferior or unreliable work. In fixing fees it is proper for a member to consider:
 - 9.1 The time, labour and capital involved. The novelty and difficulty of the matter, and the experience necessary.
 - 9.2 Whether the employment precludes other employment in similar lines of work or will involve the loss of business while engaging in the particular work.
 - 9.3 Benefit resulting to the client from the service.
 - 9.4 The character of employment: whether from a casual or from a constant and established client.
- 10 The results of lab work are the property of the client and third parties may have access to them only with the client's consent.