

Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologists (PSCP)

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Title: Policy for the Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologists (PSCP) Ethics

Effective Date: 1st Jan 2025

1. Purpose

This policy outlines the ethical principles and standards that govern the conduct of the Executive Council, members and associate members of the PSCP in Pakistan to promote integrity, accountability, and professionalism within the society, ensuring that all activities align with the values of the PSCP.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all members and associate members of the PSCP, including Executive council members, any sub-committees or working groups established under its authority. These principles will be applied to both research and clinical settings. They must be applied equally to clarify the ethical issues in chemical pathology. Chemical pathologists of PSCP working in various organizations have a responsibility to benefit the health and well-being of the patients and communities they serve. This responsibility requires that they do not perform tests and utilize technology uncritically, recognizing their impact on society. By adhering to these ethical standards, the PSCP aims to foster integrity, accountability, and professionalism, ensuring all activities align with its mission to enhance health outcomes.

3. Core Ethical Principles

- **Integrity:** Executive Council members and all other members shall act with honesty and transparency in all decisions and actions, fostering trust among each other.
- Accountability: Fairly distribute benefits, risks, and costs to patients (where applicable). All members are responsible for their actions and decisions, ensuring they uphold the society's mission and objectives. They shall be prepared to explain and justify their actions to the society and its members.
- Respect: All interactions should be conducted with respect and dignity. All members
 must value diverse opinions and foster an inclusive environment. Acknowledge
 human autonomy while ensuring protection for individuals with diminished
 autonomy.

- **Beneficence:** Act in the best interests of patients and research subjects, aiming to maximize benefits and minimize harm.
- **Professionalism:** Members must demonstrate a commitment to high standards of practice and conduct, reflecting positively on the PSCP and the laboratory profession.
- **Confidentiality:** Sensitive information pertaining to the society and its members must be treated with the utmost confidentiality, ensuring privacy and trust.

4. Conflict of Interest

- Members must disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may arise in their roles.
- Members should avoid situations where personal interests may conflict with the interests of the PSCP.
- Members shall not accept any personal benefits, gifts, or incentives from corporate members or industries that could influence their decisions or compromise the integrity of the PSCP.

5. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

• All members are expected to adhere to best practices and ethical standards in laboratory operations in Pakistan.

6. Reporting and Addressing Ethical Violations

 Any member of the Executive Council who becomes aware of unethical behaviour or violations of this policy must report the matter to the council through president of PSCP. The PSCP executive council will take appropriate action to investigate and address such reports.

7. Review and Amendments

• This policy shall be reviewed annually and may be amended as necessary to reflect changes in ethical standards or community/organizational needs.

Approval: Executive Council PSCP; 1st Nov 2024