

Prepared for NIGERIAN SOCIETY FOR BIOMEDICAL AND CLINICAL ENGINEERING (NSBCE)



## NIGERIAN SOCIETY FOR BIOMEDICAL AND CLINICAL ENGINEERING(NSBCE) CODE OF ETHICS

This Nigeria Society for Biomedical and Clinical Engineering Code of Ethics is not a binding statement of the law; rather it outlines the norms, standard and obligations our professional society believes are required to fulfill a biomedical engineer's commitment to honesty and conscientiousness in scientific inquiry and technology development, furthermore, to advancing the public health.

The principles herein define the specific conduct to which a biomedical Engineer should conform to meet the ethical standards of our profession, beyond the requirements set by regulatory bodies. The great cultural and personal ramifications that the modern practice of biomedical engineering and associated technological developments have on our society places a unique responsibility on its practitioners to uphold these ethical principles, thereby honoring the public trust placed in us to work honestly to advance the public health.

NSBCE members code of ethics shall serve as a guide to all Biomedical Engineering Professionals.

### **Biomedical engineering Professional Obligations**

Biomedical engineers in the fulfillment of their professional engineering duties shall:

- 1. Recognize both the breadth of the biomedical engineering profession and the specificity of each subfield by identifying and applying applicable Codes of Ethics, including both broader codes and narrower subfield-specific codes.
- 2. Show sincerity, fairness, and integrity in all professional interactions.
- 3. Apply their professional knowledge, acquired skills, and abilities to enhance the safety, health, and welfare of the public.
- 4. Strive by action, example, and influence to increase the competence, prestige, and honor of the biomedical engineering profession by conduct and practice.
- 5. Perform work only for which adequate knowledge, expertise and qualification by training is possessed.
- 6. Strive to avoid conflict s of interest and disclose conflicts should they arise.

#### **Biomedical Engineering Health Care Obligations**

Biomedical engineers involved in health care activities shall:

- 1. Regard responsibility toward the rights of patients, including those of confidentiality and privacy, as their primary concern.
- 2. Assume personal responsibility for understanding the local regulations pertaining to biomedical engineering in relation to the health care practice.
- 3. Make prudent use of public resources and tools made available for practice/work in health care facilities with all sense of responsibility.

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4. Acknowledge and regard the contribution of others in health care, co-workers and those in the non-technical fields of medicine and biology

#### **Biomedical Engineering Research Obligations**

Biomedical engineers involved in research shall:

- 1. Comply fully with legal, ethical, institutional, governmental, and other applicable research guidelines, respecting the rights of and exercising the responsibilities to colleagues, human and animal subjects, and the scientific and general public.
- 2. Publish and/or present properly credited results of research accurately and clearly.
- 3. Conduct research and development honestly and thoroughly in service of advancing the public health.
- 4. Exercise due diligence when studying or developing biomedical technology (e.g., seek review from collaborators or consultants when working outside areas of proficiency, keep up to date on current methods and practices, and undertake thorough background searches).

#### **Biomedical Engineering Training Obligations**

Biomedical Engineers entrusted with the responsibility of training others shall:

- 1. Honor the responsibility not only to train biomedical engineering students in proper professional conduct in performing research and publishing results, but also to model such conduct before them.
- 2. Keep training methods and content free from inappropriate influence from special interests.
- 3. Encourage Continual professional development and seek certification when appropriate.
- 4. Assume ownership over the training process (e.g., help the mentor improve the training relationship and be deliberate in determining when and how to apply training)

Conduct self professionally in accordance with the principles outlined in this code of ethics.

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