

Code of ethics in Mesotherapy

Background

The Italian Mesotherapy Society (SIM) proposes a code of ethics in respect of the patient's right to health. The ethical code is dictated by the scientific, moral, ethical and deontological mission that guides both scientific societies and doctors. The goal is to reach a standard both in the choice of the best available routes for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation and in the execution of the technique.

Art. 1. Area of application of the code of ethics

1. This Code of Ethics covers all the activities in which the Mesotherapeutic Technique is practiced: scientific research, revision of medical literature, drafting of materials with technical-scientific content, legal medical assessments in private or institutional settings, training activities, teaching, congress reports, specific disclosures and any other activity that has as its object the Mesotherapeutic Technique.

Art. 2. Responsibilities dictated by the code of ethics

1. The Code of Ethics must not be understood as a regulation that replaces or modifies the code of Medical Ethics; nor its contents constitute justification for not respecting the regulations issued by the Institutions.

2. The Code of Ethics is based on respect for human life (as indicated in the Italian Constitution), in the Charter of Human Rights, in the Recommendations of international organizations, in national and international medical ethics and, in particular, in the current revision of the Declaration of Helsinki, in the Oviedo Convention and in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

3. The Code of Ethics refers to the current legislation on health, to the rules of Good Clinical Practice: Consolidated Guidelines of the European Union, adopted by the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMA), to the standards of the Pharmaceutical Agency (AIFA in Italy) and, where applicable, to the recommendations of the National Bioethics Committee (NBC).

Art. 3. Approval, publication and update of the Code of Ethics

1. The code of ethics is approved with a consensus procedure at the end of which the document is submitted to the review of an ethical commission and is published on the website www.societadimesoterapia.it.

It is updated when necessary. Suggestions can be sent to direttivosim@societadimesoterapia.it.

Art. 4. Scientific Integrity and Institutional Projects

1. Scientific integrity is an essential condition. In the preparation of documents that propose the clinical application of the Mesotherapeutic Technique for preventive, curative or rehabilitative purposes, the most appropriate care pathways for the patient's needs must be proposed. Clinical results in congressional reports and scientific documents cannot be emphasized. Beliefs and personal experiments, even if based on long-term experience, do not constitute reference points and must be openly declared as such. The lack of scientific evidence, when it exists, must be appropriately reported in order to stimulate research in this regard.

Art. 5. Conflict of interest.

1. Conflicts of interest (including potential ones) must be declared before accepting any role or assignment that involves the production of technical-scientific materials or scientific documents with statutory purposes. Payments from commercial interest holders for the preparation of technical-scientific documents (guidelines and recommendations) must not be accepted. Relations with any commercial entity (research staff or marketing personnel) must be based on full transparency and always conducted in the interest of the patient's right to health. Each contribution must be non-conditioning, and transparent.

Art. 6. Enhancement of continuous updating.

1. The doctor constantly updates on the areas of application of the Mesotherapeutic Technique in order to guarantee patients the best therapeutic diagnostic path in the specific case. The trainers follow the principles of the code of ethics and not the purpose of profit.

Art. 7. The behavior of the SIM member with the Colleagues and with other Scientific Societies.

1. Mesotherapy is a multidisciplinary therapeutic technique and gathers doctors qualified for the profession of various branches of medicine. Cooperation between scientific and medical societies of various disciplines is fundamental. Criticisms, contradictions and scientific debate between different disciplines must not lead to personal competition, but must aim at the best care for the protection of the health of the patient.

Art. 8. Relations with Institutions.

1. The Mesotherapy Society encourages relations with the Institutions for the achievement of the statutory purposes and above all to contribute to the search for paths concerning the most efficient prevention, treatment and rehabilitation for the benefit of the patient's health.

Art. 9. Relations with the media

1. Any declaration to the Media and any other activity directed at the patient must not exalt the result of clinical research or one's own personal experience: it is necessary to avoid false therapeutic expectations to the patient.

Art. 10. Relationships with patients.

1. Health is a fundamental right of the constitutionally protected individual.
2. Among the ethical aspects, particular attention is paid to the informed consent obtained from the subject on diagnostic and therapeutic indications that must be proposed according to the indications of the Good Clinical Practice and in compliance with the Standard Operating Procedures relative to the information provided to the patient. In particular, the fundamental conditions that qualify the institution of informed consent must be respected:
 - a) The quality, completeness of the communication and exhaustive information;
 - b) The comprehensibility of information regarding risks and benefits without creating false expectations or unnecessary alarms;
 - c) the subject's freedom of decision;
 - d) The subject's decision-making capacity.
3. The Mesotherapeutic Technique must be practiced only after the formulation of a clinical diagnosis, and after comparison with other standard treatments applicable to the specific case.

Art. 11. Compliance with privacy regulations.

1. The provisions and regulations in force on the subject of privacy and personal privacy and copyright legislation must be respected.

Art. 12. Responsibility of the Members of the Mesotherapy Society

1. Every member with his / her registration agrees to respect the SIM code of ethics. The code of ethics is also addressed to every expert that the

company invites to participate in activities with statutory purposes and to any collaborator of the company.

2. The violation of the code of ethics involves the recall (with the request of the reasons for the failure to comply) until the expulsion from the company. The Board of Arbitrators, regularly elected by the assembly, analyzes each conflict situation to assess its congruence and integrity.

3. The code of ethics is published on www.societadimesoterapia.it

4. The associates and the external experts in charge keep to the evidences in all the scientific activities to which they can be called and carry out the SIM projects with intellectual and scientific honesty.

5. The members declare their conflicts of interest to the SIM management annually and whenever corporate positions are received

6. The members with adequate experience collaborate with the board to build training courses in order to contribute to the correct application of the chosen therapeutic method avoiding to put at risk the safety of the patient, regulated at the legislative level. Each Associate periodically attends the courses organized by the company (residential or remote) for their own updating.

7. Each member maintains a relationship of mutual respect with his colleagues and, based on scientific knowledge and his own clinical experience, collaborates with each representative of other scientific societies to achieve the statutory purposes.

8. The associates involved in projects with Entities and Institutions that have the purpose of contributing to decisions concerning training, research and care pathways, adhere to the scientific, deontological and ethical integrity. The use of the Mesotherapy Society logo must be authorized in writing by the Board of Directors.

Art. 13. Indication of Mesotherapy in pain (in particular for members who work in Italy)

1. Within the scope of application of the Mesotherapeutic Technique in pain management, the associate operates in compliance with the provisions of the law n. 38 of 15 March 2010 (Provisions to guarantee access to palliative care and pain therapy) published in the Official Journal n. 65 of 19 March 2010.

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