

## **GMC DUTIES OF A DOCTOR / GOOD MEDICAL PRACTICE**

- Make the care of your patient your first concern
- Treat every patient politely and considerately
- Respect patients' dignity and privacy
- Listen to patients and respect their views
- Give patients information in a way they can understand
- Respect the right of patients to be fully involved in decisions about their care
- Keep your professional knowledge and skills up to date (*CPD/law/audit/appraisal*)
- Recognise the limits of your professional competence
- Be honest and trustworthy (*including finance and research*)
- Respect and protect confidential information
- Make sure that your personal beliefs do not prejudice your patients' care
- Act quickly to protect patients from risk if you have good reason to believe that you or a colleague may not be fit to practise (*references, training, teaching*)
- Avoid abusing your position as a doctor
- Work with colleagues in the ways that best serve your patients' interests (*delegation, referral, working in multidisciplinary team, arranging cover,*)

You must never discriminate unfairly against your patients or colleagues, and you must always be prepared to justify your actions to them. If serious problems arise which call into question your registration, these are the standards against which you will be judged.

The booklet 'Good Medical Practice' expands on these points. Adequate history, examination, prompt action on your findings, keeping clear contemporaneous notes regarding decisions made, and maintaining professional insurance, (ie MDU,MPS) are all covered in this booklet.