

Getting started with BMJ Best Practice and other clinical decision support tools – Professional Standards

All of our sessions have been mapped against standards from the following professional organisations. Click on each to find the individual standards that the session meets:

- [General Medical Council](#)
- [Nursing and Midwifery Council](#)
- [Health and Care Professions Council](#)
- [General Pharmaceutical Council](#)
- [General Dental Council](#)
- [General Optical Council](#)
- [Professional Standards Authority](#)
- [Skills for Health](#)
- [Social Work England](#)
- [American College of Health Care Administrators](#)
- [Chartered Institute of Professional Development](#)
- [Academy for Healthcare Science](#)

GMC Professional Capabilities Framework

- From Domain 2 – Doctors must be able to:
 - Manage the uncertainty of achieving specific outcomes in clinical practice
 - Formulate an appropriate and prioritised differential diagnosis
 - Formulate an appropriate diagnostic and management plan, taking into account patient preferences, and the urgency required
 - Review and monitor therapeutic interventions appropriate to their scope of clinical practice
 - Prescribe medications and use other therapies in line with the latest evidence
- From Domain 3 – Doctors must be aware of and adhere to professional requirements including:
 - Participating in continuing professional development to keep their knowledge, skills and capabilities up to date
- From Domain 9 – Doctors must demonstrate that they can:
 - Practise in line with the latest evidence
 - Understand the role of evidence in clinical practice and demonstrate shared decision making with patients

NMC Code

- Section 6 – Always practice in line with the best available evidence
 - 6.1: Make sure that any information or advice given is evidence based including information relating to using any health and care products or services
 - 6.2: Maintain the knowledge and skills you need for safe and effective practice
- Section 8 – Work co-operatively
 - 8.6: Share information to identify and reduce risk
- Section 9 – Share your skills, knowledge and experience for the benefit of people receiving care and your colleagues
 - 9.4: Support students' and colleagues' learning to help them develop their professional competence and confidence
- Section 18 – Advise on, prescribe, supply, dispense or administer medicines within the limits of your training and competence, the law, our guidance and other relevant policies, guidance and regulations
 - 18.2: Keep to appropriate guidelines when giving advice on using controlled drugs and recording the prescribing, supply, dispensing or administration of controlled drugs
- Section 19 – Be aware of, and reduce as far as possible, any potential for harm associated with your practice
 - 19.1: Take measures to reduce as far as possible, the likelihood of mistakes, near misses, harm and the effect of harm if it takes place

HCPC Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics

- Section 2 – Communicate appropriately and effectively
 - 2.6: You must share relevant information, where appropriate, with colleagues involved in the care, treatment or other services provided to a service user
- Section 3 – Work within the limits of your knowledge and skills
 - 3.3: You must keep your knowledge and skills up to date and relevant to your scope of practice through continuing professional development
 - 3.4: You must keep up to date with and follow the law, our guidance and other requirements relevant to your practice

GPhC Standards for Pharmacy Professionals

- From Standard 4 – Pharmacy professionals must maintain, develop and use their professional knowledge and skills. People receive safe and effective care when pharmacy professionals:
 - Use their skills and knowledge, including up-to-date evidence, to deliver care and improve the quality of care they provide
- From Standard 5 – Pharmacy professionals must use their professional judgement. People receive safe and effective care when pharmacy professionals:
 - Have the information they need to provide appropriate care
- From Standard 9 – Pharmacy professionals must demonstrate leadership. People receive safe and effective care when pharmacy professionals:
 - Contribute to the education, training and development of the team or of others

GDC Standards for the Dental Team

- Principle 1 – Put patients' interests first
 - 1.4.2: You must provide patients with treatment that is in their best interests, providing appropriate oral health advice and following clinical guidelines relevant to their situation. You may need to balance their oral health needs with their desired outcomes. If their desired outcome is not achievable or is not in the best interests of their oral health, you must explain the risks, benefits and likely outcomes to help them to make a decision.
- Principle 2 – Communicate effectively with patients
 - 2.2.1: You must listen to patients and communicate effectively with them at a level they can understand. Before treatment starts you must:
 - Explain the options (including those of delaying treatment or doing nothing) with the risks and benefits of each
 - Give full information on the treatment you propose and the possible costs
- Principle 3 – Obtain valid consent
 - 3.1.3: You should find out what your patients want to know as well as what you think they need to know. Things that patients might want to know include:
 - Options for treatment, the risks and the potential benefits
 - Why you think a particular treatment is necessary and appropriate for them
 - The consequences, risks and benefits of the treatment you propose
 - The likely prognosis
 - Your recommended option
 - The cost of the proposed treatment
 - What might happen if the proposed treatment is not carried out
 - Whether the treatment is guaranteed, how long it is guaranteed for and any exclusions that apply
 - 3.2.1: You must provide patients with sufficient information and give them a reasonable amount of time to consider that information in order to make a decision

- Principle 6 – Work with colleagues in a way that is in patients’ best interests
 - 6.2.1: You must not provide treatment if you feel that the circumstances make it unsafe for patients
- Principle 7 – Maintain, develop and work within your professional knowledge and skills
 - 7.1.1: You must find out about current evidence and best practice which affect your work, premises, equipment and business and follow them

GOC Standards of Practice for Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians

- Section 1 – Listen to patients and ensure they are at the heart of the decisions made about their care
 - 1.3: Assist patients in exercising their rights and making informed decisions about their care. Respect the choices they make
- Section 6 – Recognise, and work within, your limits of competence
 - 6.1: Recognise and work within the limits of your scope of practice, taking into account your knowledge, skills and experience
- Section 7 – Conduct appropriate assessments, examinations, treatments and referrals
 - 7.4: Check that the care and treatment you provide for each patient is compatible with any other treatments the patient is receiving, including (where possible) over-the-counter medications
 - 7.5: Provide effective patient care and treatments based on current good practice

PSA Standards for members of NHS Boards and Clinical Commissioning Group governing bodies in England

- From Standard 2 – I will apply the following values in my work and relationships with others:
 - I will be fully accountable for my work and the decisions that I make, for the work and decisions of the board, including delegated responsibilities, and for the staff and services for which I am responsible
 - I will take responsibility for ensuring that I have the relevant knowledge and skills to perform as a board member and that I reflect on and identify any gaps in my knowledge and skills, and will participate constructively in appraisal of myself and others. I will adhere to any professional or other codes by which I am bound
- From Standard 3 – As a Member, for myself, my organisation, and the NHS, I will seek:
 - I will seek excellence in clinical care, patient safety, patient experience, and the accessibility of services

SfH Code of Conduct for Healthcare Support Workers and Adult Social Care Workers in England

- Standard 2 – Promote and uphold the privacy, dignity, rights, health and wellbeing of people who use health and care services and their carers at all time
 - 2.1: Always act in the best interests of people who use health and care services
- Standard 3 – Work in collaboration with your colleagues to ensure the delivery of high quality, safe and compassionate healthcare, care and support
 - 3.6: Actively encourage the delivery of high quality healthcare, care and support
- Standard 6 – Strive to improve the quality of healthcare, care and support through continuing professional development
 - 6.2: Participate in continuing professional development to achieve the competence required for your role

SWE Professional Standards

- Standard 3 – Be accountable for the quality of my practice and the decisions I make. As a social worker I will:
 - 3.2: Use information from a range of appropriate sources, including supervision, to inform assessments, to analyse risk, and to make a professional decision
 - 3.6: Draw on the knowledge and skills of workers from my own and other professions and work in collaboration, particularly in integrated teams, holding onto and promoting my social work identity
 - 3.10: Establish and maintain skills in information and communication technology and adapt my practice to new ways of working, as appropriate

ACHCA Code of Ethics

- Expectation I: Primacy of Persons Served – Individuals shall hold paramount the welfare, rights, dignity, safety, and quality of life of persons served. The Health Care Administrator shall:
 - Promote safety, infection prevention, emergency preparedness, and clinically appropriate use of medications and restraints (physical or chemical).
- Expectation II: Professional Competence and Personal Conduct – Individuals shall maintain high standards of professional competence, integrity, and accountability. The Health Care Administrator shall:
 - Maintain licensure/credentials and competencies required for role and setting; pursue continuing education and professional development
 - Use technology, electronic health records, telehealth, AI/decision-support, and social media responsibly, transparently, and lawfully
- Expectation IV: Responsibility to the public, the profession and colleagues – Individuals shall honor their responsibilities to the public, the profession, and interprofessional partners. The Health Care Administrator shall:
 - Advance knowledge in post-acute and long-term care through scholarship, quality improvement, and evidence-informed practice

CIPD Code of Conduct and Ethics

- Section 4 – Professional service and competence:
 - 4.2: Provide an insightful, up-to-date and evidence based service.
Manage commitments effectively and take action where deadlines and obligations are at risk of not being met, particularly where external or personal factors may disrupt service delivery

AHCS Good Scientific Practice

- Domain 1 – Professional Practice:
 - 1.5.2: You should make best use of the resources available to you, including others' time and expertise, efficiently and judiciously to optimise the quality and efficacy of patient care and service delivery. You should also think in the context of sustainability of the environment and the social and economic impact of your practice
- Domain 3 – Clinical Practice:
 - 3.1.3: You provide clinical analysis and advice appropriate to your specialty, including by planning and progressing investigative strategies and clinical protocols to optimise diagnosis, monitoring and therapy of patients with a range of disorders
 - 3.1.6: You refer patients to the most appropriate healthcare professional or service, ensuring that you do the following:
 - Put patients' needs and safety first
 - Recognise when elements of patient care sit outside your scope of practice, competence and job role
 - 3.2.1: You undertake detailed clinical or psycho-social assessments, investigations or analysis, including by doing the following:
 - Using appropriate techniques and equipment.
 - Accurately and fully record the nature and results of your assessments.
 - Regularly reviewing the outcomes of assessments, including in partnership with patients
 - 3.2.2: You plan, decide and advise on clinical or scientific investigations or products to meet patients' diagnostic, predictive, therapeutic, rehabilitative and/or treatment needs, taking account of all relevant information that is available to you and in appropriate consultation and partnership with others
 - 3.2.4: You prioritise the delivery of investigations, interventions, services and treatments based on your informed understanding of patients' clinical need, including palliative care needs
 - 3.2.5: You advise colleagues on using technologies, investigative processes and interventions to inform, progress and monitor patient care