

Leading
by Example

Responsibility
&
Accountability

FOUNDATION DENTIST PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOURS & COMMUNICATION PRINCIPLES

DENTAL FOUNDATION PROGRAMME



The successful treatment of our patients depends heavily on our ability to work well together. Good communication should sit at the heart of everything we do - and often many of the issues we face are the result of poor communication.

This document intends to reinforce a sense of professional respect and teamwork which will help navigate difficulties and assist in overcoming barriers to provide the highest possible standards of patient care.

The Department of Health published the Collective Leadership Strategy in 2017, this strategy specifically aims to establish and embed a core set of values and behaviours for all HSC staff.

We all work as part of the one health & social care team - striving for the common goal of achieving the very best outcomes for all patients.

NIMDTA has developed a set of principles for Foundation Dentists and Educational Supervisors to aid and improve effective communication and behaviours to maintain good professional relationships.



Working together



Excellence



Openness & Honesty



Compassion

As a Foundation Dentist in the Northern Ireland scheme it is expected and agreed that:

01

You should be open to constructive feedback and suggestions and be prepared to modify your behaviour, if necessary.

02

You have a responsibility to raise any issues through the appropriate official channels; being mindful of the need to protect personal, practice and patient information.

03

You will display through your actions **responsibility** and **accountability** as a dental professional, to your practice and patients.

04

Your attitude and approach to daily practice must demonstrate a proactive and positive attitude to learning and effective team working.

05

You will be respectful of colleagues in front of patients and other team members. Be particularly mindful of your attitudes and the language (both verbal and non-verbal) used. Your behaviours can have a considerable impact on how you are viewed within the team.

06

The workload of fellow team members both clinical & non-clinical will involve issues about which you may have limited understanding. As a team member you should make active consideration of the workload and pressures facing other members of the dental team.

07

In the interest of your patients you must always be receptive to suggestions of alternatives to treatment planning options.

08

When transferring a patient to the care of another colleague (or seeking an opinion) ensure that all the information which may be required is sent to them in a clear and concise format, ideally outlining a specific aim where appropriate.

09

When contacted by a professional colleague, for example a NIMDTA Administrator, Dental Adviser or HSC Colleague, you will make every effort to respond to them as quickly as possible or pass them onto another individual who can respond.

10

You will demonstrate awareness of the sensitivity and confidential nature of the Dental Foundation Training scheme. Ensure that any information shared with other Educational Supervisors, other practices or Foundation Dentists is appropriate.

11

In the event your personal circumstances change in such a fashion as to potentially affect your work performance then this should be shared appropriately to ensure ongoing care of patients.

12

You will be cognisant of and fully engage with the Policies and Procedures of the practice where you are employed. These should be taken into consideration when planning leave.

13

You will not use Social Media in relation to your clinical practice, practice issues or team members.

NIMDTA

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