

Code of Ethics

A document setting out the ethical and professional principles expected of members of the Irish Acupuncture Register.

1. Purpose

This Code of Ethics establishes the professional and moral framework guiding members of the Irish Acupuncture Register.

It is designed to protect the public, support practitioners, and uphold the integrity of acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine.

2. Core ethical principles

Practitioners should prioritise patient wellbeing, safety, dignity, and informed decision-making in all aspects of care.

Professional relationships should be conducted with honesty, integrity, and respect.

- Obtain clear, voluntary, and informed consent.
- Respect confidentiality and autonomy.
- Practise only within the limits of competence.

3. Professional integrity and boundaries

Practitioners must not make false or misleading claims regarding treatment or outcomes.

Relationships with patients must remain therapeutic and professionally boundaried.

4. Diversity of practice

The IAR recognises the diversity of approaches within acupuncture and TCM. Practitioners may work within different traditions and clinical frameworks, provided care remains safe and ethical.

5. Statement of ethical balance

The IAR recognises that high standards of care can coexist with diversity of thought, tradition, and individual conscience.