



CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY

Association of South Africa

Code of Ethics

Purpose:

The Code of Ethics is designed to encourage integrity and responsibility in the practicing of Craniosacral Therapy, and to uphold and further the standing of the profession by members of the Craniosacral Therapy Association of South Africa. This code is a guide according to which conduct is determined and a standard by which conduct can be evaluated and thus may form the basis of discussion in the event of disciplinary action against a member or disqualification of membership.

This Code applies to registered members of CSTA-SA. Its purpose is to establish and maintain standards for the practice of Craniosacral Therapy, and to inform and protect members of the public seeking such treatment.

Duties:

These are general principles that therapists need to observe in order to responsibly fulfill their calling.

1. The therapist's role is to facilitate balance and health in human beings and other animals.
2. A therapist should practice their profession with integrity, dignity, sensitivity, and equality and only within the limits of their professional training and competency and may not give unqualified advice.
3. A therapist should abide by the aims and rulings as set out by the Association; thus maintaining the highest standards in conduct, the care of patients and professional expertise.
4. The therapist should respect their patient's views (religion, spirituality, political and social) and wishes.
5. The therapist is expected to be dedicated and act professionally so as not to harm and to prevent harm from happening (be conscious of working with mentally handicapped, cerebral palsied, physically handicapped, aged and patients with fragile bones or lax ligaments. Taking care when having to lift or move a patient).
6. The therapist shall ensure personal and professional health, hygiene, and dress.
7. The therapist shall obtain informed consent from a patient to do therapy before a treatment.
8. At the initial consultation, the therapist will inform the patient about what Craniosacral Therapy is and how the treatment will take place, the duration and frequency of the treatments, advise of possible after treatment reactions and advise the fee they intend to charge for the treatment.
9. Accurate records of a client's case history and responses of the treatment are to be kept for all sessions. This info should not be disclosed unless required by law to do so or the therapist has been given consent in writing by the patient to do so.
10. Therapists should protect themselves by having insurance indemnity.



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11. A consulting room preference, if possible, should be set up with at least 2 separate rooms. One for consultation and one for treatment, and if the practice is set up at a residence, there should be a separate entrance to the consulting room rather than having to walk through the place of residence.
12. A therapist should not diagnose, prescribe, claim to cure, or claim to treat a specific ailment or disease. Treatment will not be given when the patient is physically or emotionally impaired or unwell in any way. Cranial treatment should not be given if it's known or intended to terminate a pregnancy.
13. A therapist shall comply with the law in the area they practice and in the event of any police or governmental inquiry into their practice, immediately advise the Secretary of the Association.
14. A therapist is not to conduct a genital examination of a patient without a chaperone being present or a written consent having been given; the therapist must ensure that the patient fully understands the need for such treatment and what it involves and may not make a physical examination of a child under 16 years of age except by the explicit permission of a parent or guardian.
15. A therapist should treat fellow therapists and members of the Association with respectful behaviour.
16. No therapist should be addicted to alcohol or deleterious drugs.
17. No therapist should make false or misleading representations, reports, or certificates for any purpose whatsoever. In their professional capacity as a therapist and member of the Association, they shall continue to conduct their practice in a professional manner and not neglect their responsibilities as a therapist or show in any way the absence of such reasonable skill and attention as shall have endangered the health of a patient or prolonged a patient's illness or period of convalescence.

If one is found to be in breach of this Code, the therapist may be warned against a further breach. In the event of more serious malpractice or having received warnings at more than two separate adjudications, the therapist may be struck off the Register of the Association. The decision shall be final and binding.