

# **Code of Ethics for members of the IFA – International Federation of Aromatherapists**

**All categories of membership of the International Federation of Aromatherapists who are in practice will be expected to follow the Code of Ethics and to conduct him/herself in a manner that will uphold and maintain the high standards of the aromatherapy profession.**

**The Code of Ethics is divided into three sections and all three parts are to be observed at all times – attitude and behaviour towards client, the general public and fellow members of the Federation.**

## **1) CLIENT**

- i) The members primary obligation is towards the client – must practice his/her skills to the best of his/her ability for the benefit of that client.**
- ii) The comfort and welfare of the client must have priority over any other requirement.**
- iii) Consultation, assessment and treatment only to be carried out with the consent of the client (or parent/guardian in the case of minors).**
- iv) Any information gained during the consultation/assessment or during the treatment must not be divulged to anyone without the consent of the client, except where required by law.**
- v) An IFA Member must be mislead – for his/her gain – a client seeking advice or treatment.**
- vi) Reasonable care must be taken to ensure – adequate hygienic conditions, materials used are of good quality and that all equipment used is safe for the client.**
- vii) A member is free to choose whether or not he/she accepts a client for treatment.**
- viii) A member must ensure that his/her practice is fully covered by a professional indemnity and public liability insurance.**
- ix) A member should not knowingly accept a client for an aromatherapy treatment if that client requires any form of medical attention – without the approval of their doctor.**

## **2) GENERAL PUBLIC**

- i) The premises or clinic of a member to be maintained to a reasonable high standard assuring the general public of the credibility of the aromatherapy profession.**
- ii) A member can advertise his/her professional services in any appropriate providing that it does not bring discredit to the profession.**
- iii) Newspapers, journals, professional papers and other published work may appear over a member's name and qualifications.**
- iv) Stationery should be of an acceptable standard stating name, professional qualifications, address, telephone/fax numbers, E-mail address, type of treatment provided and practice hours.**

## **3) FELLOW MEMBERS**

- i) A member must not attempt to entice a client away from another member of aromatherapy practitioner for their own gain.**
- ii) In cases of referral of a client to a member by another colleague – no form of commission or fee may be paid or accepted.**
- iii) Members must present a united front to the public and should not imply any form of criticism of colleagues either in writing or verbally before clients or the general public.**