

American Medical Association's **Principles of Medical Ethics** (1996)

I: A physician shall be dedicated to providing competent medical services with compassion and respect for human dignity.

II: A physician shall deal honestly with patients and colleagues, and strive to expose those physicians deficient in character or competence, or who engage in fraud or deception.

III: A physician shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes in those requirements which are contrary to the best interests of the patient.

IV: A physician shall respect the rights of patients, or colleagues, and of other health professionals, and shall safeguard patient confidences within the constraint of the law.

V: A physician shall continue to study, apply and advance scientific knowledge, make relevant information available to patients, colleagues and the public, obtain consultation, and use the talents of other health professionals when indicated.

VI: A physician shall, in the provision of appropriate patient care, except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide medical services.

VII: A physician shall recognize a responsibility to participate in activities contributing to an improved community.