



REIKI AUSTRALIA
In Touch

Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice

To be reviewed within five years

Preamble

Upon entering the practice of Reiki, each practitioner accepts the responsibility and trust vested in the practice of Reiki, and the corresponding obligation to adhere to and maintain Reiki Australia's Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice. Reiki practitioner members have a responsibility to the client, society, and Reiki Australia, to provide safe, competent duty of care to clients. The Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice in Australia is a guideline to set national minimum standards for accountable professional conduct.

The Code has been developed to ensure responsible Reiki practice.

Purpose of the Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice

- To inform the Reiki treatment practitioner of the minimum standards for professional, ethical and moral conduct.
- To inform the public of the minimum standards for professional, ethical and moral conduct, and indicate to the community the values and standards which Reiki treatment practitioners uphold.
- To provide appropriate bodies with a basis for decisions regarding standards of professional, ethical and moral conduct.

Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice

Each Reiki treatment practitioner will:

1. Provide professional, safe, ethical and competent treatments;
2. Adopt standard precautions for infection control
3. Uphold the highest professional standards of their practice;
4. Practise in accordance with current laws, professional, moral and ethical standards relevant to complementary healing practice;
5. Respect the dignity, culture, values, and beliefs of clients and significant others in the provision of Reiki treatments and/or teaching;
6. Promote and support the health, wellbeing and informed decision-making of clients in the provision of Reiki treatments;
7. Promote and preserve the trust that is inherent in the privileged relationship between Reiki practitioners and their clients with respect to both their person and their property;
8. Treat as confidential personal information obtained in a professional capacity;
9. Keep appropriate records
10. Refrain from engaging in exploitation, misinformation and misrepresentation, in regard to health care products and Reiki practice;
11. Treat all individuals with integrity, impartiality and respect;
12. Ensure all professional relationships and interactions will be ethical and non-exploitative financially, sexually, emotionally or in any other way; and
13. Recognise the value of self-treatment and also receiving Reiki from another as part of their on-going self-development.

If a Reiki treatment practitioner is unable to uphold all of the elements of this Code with any client, s/he is required to decline to treat that client, and where possible refer them to another practitioner.

Explanatory Statements in relation to the Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice

Provide professional, safe, ethical and competent treatments

- The Reiki treatment practitioner is personally accountable for the provision of professional, safe, ethical and competent Reiki treatments. Therefore the practitioner is responsible for maintaining the competence necessary for current practice.
- The practitioner should advise employers or the appropriate authority of their level of competence, as well as limitations. Where care is delegated to another practitioner, the delegating practitioner will ensure that the delegation of care does not in any way compromise their responsibility to duty of care to the client.
- Reiki treatment practitioners must encourage their clients to inform their treating medical practitioner (if any) of the treatments they are receiving,
- Reiki treatment practitioners must have a sound understanding that adverse interactions are possible between the treatments they provide and other treatments or medications, whether prescribed or not. Reiki treatment practitioners are required to document any adverse reactions reported to them by their clients.
- Reiki treatment practitioners must ensure that appropriate first aid is available to deal with any misadventure during a Reiki session
- Reiki treatment practitioners who have serious concerns about the treatment provided to any of their clients by another health practitioner must refer the matter to the Health Care Complaints Commission
- The Code is not intended to provide direction for the resolution of specific ethical dilemmas, nor can this document adequately address the definitions of terms and concepts which are part of the study of ethics. If faced with an ethical dilemma Reiki Australia members are encouraged to contact the Reiki Australia Ethics Committee. Members are also encouraged to undertake discussion and educational opportunities in order to identify ethical dilemmas as well as apply ethical reasoning and clarify for themselves issues related to the provision of professional, safe, ethical and competent treatments.

Adopt standard precautions for infection control

- Reiki treatment practitioners must adopt standard precautions for the control of infection in their practice.

Uphold the highest professional standards of their practice

- The agreed standards for the practice of Reiki include a number of statements such as this Code and the Code of Ethics for Reiki Practitioners. Reiki practitioners are responsible for ensuring that the standard of their care is congruent with the agreed standards of Reiki Australia, thereby ensuring safety for, and enhancing health outcomes and wellbeing of their clients.

- Reiki treatment practitioners have a responsibility to themselves to maintain their own effectiveness. They are expected to monitor their own personal functioning and to seek help and/or withdraw from giving treatments when their personal resources are sufficiently depleted through personal or emotional challenges, illness, disability, drugs or any other change to their lives that may impair their effectiveness as professionals.

Practise in accordance with current laws, professional, moral and ethical standards relevant to complementary healing practice

- Reiki treatment practitioners are required to be familiar with all relevant laws so as to ensure that they do not engage in practices prohibited by such laws or delegate to others activities prohibited by those laws.
- Reiki treatment practitioners must not accept financial inducements or gifts for referring clients to other health practitioners or to the suppliers of therapeutic goods or devices.
- Reiki treatment practitioners must not offer financial inducements or gifts in return for client referrals from other health practitioners.

Respect the dignity, culture, values and beliefs of clients and significant others in the provision of Reiki treatments

- In providing treatment, the Reiki treatment practitioner treats with consideration and respect the wishes and decisions of clients, students and their significant others. The practitioner should seek, where possible, assistance and advice from properly qualified interpreters, ethnic advisers or relevant cultural support persons as necessary.

Promote and support the health, wellbeing and informed decision-making of clients in the provision of Reiki treatments

- Within their role and scope of competency, Reiki treatment practitioners educate and inform clients and significant others regarding the nature and purpose of their treatment, thus enabling them to make informed decisions. In situations where clients are unable to decide or speak for themselves, the practitioner must endeavour to ensure that the perspective of the client is represented by an appropriate advocate.

Promote and preserve the trust that is inherent in the privileged relationship between Reiki treatment practitioners and their clients with respect to both their person and their property

- Clients can find themselves in a vulnerable situation when they enter the practitioner/client relationship. Clients trust that practitioners will personally cause them no physical or psychological harm, and will not abuse their property.

Treat as confidential personal information obtained in a professional capacity

- The practitioner has a legal and moral duty to protect the privacy of the client by confining communications obtained in a professional capacity to other practitioners involved in the care of the client for professional purposes.
- The client should be informed that in providing competent care, it may be necessary for the practitioner to disclose certain information relevant to clinical decisions which must be made by other health practitioners involved in the client's care.
- Where practicable, consent is to be sought from the client or a person entitled to act on behalf of the client before information is disclosed. In the absence of consent, the practitioner uses professional judgment regarding the necessity to disclose particular details, giving due

consideration to the interests, well-being, and safety of the client and recognising that the practitioner may be required to disclose certain information to practitioners in the broader health care system.

- Where information is required for teaching and research, the practitioner ensures that anonymity and privacy of the client are protected, and that the information for research is obtained by consent.

Keep appropriate records

- Reiki treatment practitioners must maintain accurate, legible and current records for each client consultation.

Refrain from engaging in exploitation, misinformation and misrepresentation, in regard to health care products and Reiki practice

- Reiki treatment practitioners should be aware that when engaged in promoting commercial products, there is a risk that the title 'Reiki Treatment Practitioner', or 'Accredited Reiki Treatment Practitioner' could be seen to endorse the worth of the product.
- Reiki treatment practitioners must not engage in any form of misinformation or misrepresentation in relation to the services they provide or as to their qualifications, training or professional affiliations.
- In describing their practice Reiki treatment practitioners must avoid comparisons to other practices or practitioners, Reiki or otherwise, e.g. *'is more effective than ...'*, *'accesses a higher vibration than ...'*.
- Reiki treatment practitioners must provide truthful information as to their qualifications, training or professional affiliations.

Areas of Competence and Client Relationship

Individuals are entitled to make decisions related to their own welfare, based on accurate information given by the practitioner. If clients are not present or able to speak for themselves, the practitioner will ensure, where possible, that someone is able to accurately represent the person's perspective.

Relationship with other Health Care Professionals

1. Members will respect a client's faith in their primary care provider.
2. Members will acknowledge the roles of other health care professionals, and will refrain from denigrating them or their legitimate practice.
3. Members will have due regard for advice, treatment or therapy that may be provided to a client by another health care professional.
4. Members will be aware of the limitations of their own particular fields of training and qualification, and will, when necessary, refer clients to, and co-operate with, other health professionals.

Professional Excellence

It is expected that members will:

1. Be aware that professional judgment and conduct may be impaired by the use of alcohol and drugs, and therefore abstain from these substances when acting in a professional capacity;

2. Continually enhance their professional qualifications, knowledge and skills throughout their careers, and assist those who may work under their supervision to attain further professional knowledge and experience;
3. Cultivate clear communication with their clients and fellow health professionals. With the latter, this will encompass the sharing of professional knowledge;
4. Ensure that premises where they conduct their practice offer privacy and are maintained in a clean and tidy manner. Members will maintain appropriate standards of attire and personal hygiene during clinical practice;
5. Ensure that all equipment used in their practice is maintained in good order so as to maintain appropriate safety for the client;
6. Refrain from professional misconduct, including plagiarism, inappropriate omission of information, and the making of false or deceptive statements;
7. Take personal responsibility and accountability for their decisions and actions as professional practitioners in society. They will be aware that their actions and choices in behaviour and communication may have an effect on others. Where conflict of interest may arise, the practitioner will take prompt steps to resolve the issue; and
8. Refrain from making either diagnosis or prognosis for their clients.

Discipline

All Reiki treatment practitioners are bound by the Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice and, on joining Reiki Australia, shall be required to sign that they have read, and subscribe to, the above Code. Any Reiki Treatment Practitioner Member, Accredited Reiki Treatment Practitioner, or Clinical Practitioner Member found to be in breach of this Code shall be liable to disciplinary action under the rules of Reiki Australia.

Any member who suspects any breach of this Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice has a responsibility to notify the Executive Director of Reiki Australia in writing of the alleged breach in the interests of the public, the members of Reiki Australia and the integrity of the practice of Reiki.

Requirement to Display Code and other information

Reiki treatment practitioners must display a copy of each of the following documents at all premises where the practitioner carries on his or her practice:

- (a) Reiki Australia's Code of Professional Conduct for Reiki Practice;
- (b) Reiki Australia's Complaints Procedure.

Copies of those documents must be displayed in a position and manner that makes them easily visible to clients entering the relevant premises.