



REIKI AUSTRALIA
In Touch

**Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki
Treatment Practitioners
2015**

October 2015; To be reviewed within five years

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Reiki Australia gratefully acknowledges this Code
which is adapted from the
Reiki Association of Practitioners & Masters (Australia) Inc (RAPMA).



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September 2015; *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 Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners. Professional Reiki treatment practitioner members have a responsibility to the client, society, and Reiki Australia, to provide safe, competent care to clients. The Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners in Australia is a guideline to set national minimum standards for accountable professional conduct.

Purpose of the Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners

- To inform the professional 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 that professional Reiki treatment practitioners uphold.

- To provide appropriate bodies with a basis for decisions regarding standards of professional, ethical and moral conduct.

Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners

Each professional Reiki treatment practitioner will:

1. Provide services in a safe and ethical manner
2. Obtain consent
3. Apply appropriate conduct in relation to treatment advice
4. Report concerns about treatment or care provided by other health care workers
5. Take appropriate action in response to adverse events
6. Adopt standard precautions for infection control
7. If diagnosed with an infectious medical condition, ensure that he or she practises in a manner that does not put clients at risk
8. Not make claims to cure certain serious illnesses
9. Not misinform their clients
10. Not practise under the influence of alcohol or drugs
11. Not provide treatment or care to clients while suffering from a physical or mental impairment that is likely to place clients at risk of harm
12. Not financially exploit clients
13. Not engage in sexual misconduct
14. Comply with relevant privacy laws
15. Keep appropriate records
16. Be covered by appropriate insurance
17. Display this code and Reiki Australia's complaints mechanism in their place of work

If a professional 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.

Application of the Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners¹

1.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to provide services in a safe and ethical manner

1.1 The professional 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 practice.

¹ These explanations have incorporated the COAG Health Council Final Report A *National Code of Conduct for health care workers* 17th April 2015 pp 33-47

1.2 The professional Reiki treatment practitioner must not provide health care of a type that is outside his or her experience or training, or provide services that he or she is not qualified to provide.

1.3 The professional Reiki treatment practitioner must recognise the limitations of the treatment he or she can provide and refer clients to other competent health service providers in appropriate circumstances

1.4 The professional Reiki treatment practitioner must recommend to clients that additional opinions and services be sought, where appropriate

1.5 The professional Reiki treatment practitioner must assist a client to find other appropriate health care services, if required and practicable

1.6 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must encourage their clients to inform their treating medical practitioner (if any) of the treatments they are receiving

1.7 Professional 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. They are required to document any adverse reactions reported to them by their clients.

1.8 The professional Reiki treatment practitioner must provide health services in a manner that is culturally sensitive to the needs of his or her clients.

1.9 The professional Reiki treatment practitioner should advise employers or appropriate authorities of their level of competence, as well as limitations. Where care is delegated to another practitioner, the delegating practitioner must ensure that the delegation of care does not in any way compromise their responsibility to duty of care to the client.

1.10 Professional members of Reiki Australia are 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.

1.11 This 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 that 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.

2.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to obtain consent.

2.1 Prior to commencing a treatment or service, the professional Reiki treatment practitioner must ensure that consent appropriate to that treatment or service, including the cost of that treatment or service has been obtained and complies with the laws of the jurisdiction.

2.2 This includes describing the recommended hand positions for the treatment and the client agreeing to the use of those hand positions.

2.3 Where there is a clear clinical basis for placement of hands over the genitals or breasts as part of the Reiki treatment, the Reiki treatment practitioner must obtain signed consent from the client prior to treatment.

3.0 Appropriate conduct in relation to treatment advice

3.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must accept the right of their clients to make informed choices in relation to their health care.

3.2 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must not attempt to dissuade a client from seeking or continuing medical treatment.

3.3 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must communicate and co-operate with colleagues and other health service providers and agencies in the best interests of their clients.

4.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to report concerns about the conduct of other Reiki practitioners

Professional Reiki treatment practitioners who have serious concerns about the treatment provided to any of their clients by another Reiki practitioner must refer the matter to the appropriate

health care complaints authority in their state or territory. In the event that the other practitioner is a member of Reiki Australia, in the first instance they are encouraged to contact the Reiki Australia Ethics Committee (see Reiki Australia's Complaints Procedure, Section 11, 'How can a complaint be lodged?').

5.0 Appropriate action in response to adverse events

5.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must take appropriate and timely measures to minimise harm to clients when an adverse event occurs in the course of providing treatment or care.

5.2 Without limiting subclause (5.1), professional Reiki treatment practitioners must:

- a. ensure that appropriate first aid is available to deal with any adverse event
- b. obtain appropriate emergency assistance in the event of any serious adverse event
- c. promptly disclose the adverse event to the client and take appropriate remedial steps to reduce the risk of recurrence
- d. report the adverse event to the relevant authority, where appropriate.

6.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to adopt standard precautions for infection control

Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must adopt standard precautions for the control of infection in the course of providing treatment or care.

7.0 A professional Reiki treatment practitioner diagnosed with infectious medical conditions

7.1 A Professional Reiki treatment practitioner who has been diagnosed with a medical condition that can be passed on to clients must ensure that he or she practises in a manner that does not put clients at risk.

7.2 Without limiting subclause (7.1), a Professional Reiki treatment practitioner who has been diagnosed with a medical condition that can be passed on to clients must take and follow advice from a suitably qualified registered health practitioner on the necessary steps to be taken to modify his or her practice to avoid the possibility of transmitting that condition to clients.

8.0. Professional Reiki treatment practitioners not to make claims to cure any illnesses

A Professional Reiki treatment practitioner must not claim or represent that he or she is qualified, able or willing to cure cancer or any other illness.

9.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners not to misinform their clients

9.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must not engage in any form of misinformation or misrepresentation in relation to the products or services they provide or the qualifications, training or professional affiliations they hold.

9.2 Without limiting subclause (9.1):

- a. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must not use his or her possession of a particular qualification to mislead or deceive clients or the public as to his or her competence in a field of practice or ability to provide treatment
- b. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must provide truthful information as to his or her qualifications, training or professional affiliations
- c. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must not make claims, either directly to clients or in advertising or promotional materials, about the efficacy of treatment or services he or she provides, if those claims cannot be substantiated.

10.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners not to practise under the influence of alcohol or unlawful substances

10.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must not provide treatment or care to clients while under the influence of alcohol or unlawful substances.

10.2 A professional Reiki treatment practitioner who is taking prescribed medication must obtain advice from the prescribing health practitioner or dispensing pharmacist on the impact of the medication on his or her ability to practise, and must refrain from treating or caring for clients in circumstances where his or her capacity is or may be impaired.

11.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners with certain mental or physical impairment

11.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must not provide treatment or care to clients while suffering from a physical or mental impairment, disability, condition or disorder (including an addiction to alcohol or a drug, whether or not prescribed) that places or is likely to place clients at risk of harm.

11.2 Without limiting subclause (11.1), if a professional Reiki treatment practitioner has a mental or physical impairment that could place clients at risk, the professional Reiki treatment practitioner must seek advice from a suitably qualified health practitioner to determine whether, and in what ways, he or she should modify his or her practice, including stopping practice if necessary.

12.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners not to financially exploit clients

12.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must not financially exploit their clients.

12.2 Without limiting subclause (12.1):

- a. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must only provide services or treatments to clients that are designed to maintain or improve clients' health or wellbeing

- b. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must be clear about the cost of services prior to treatment.
- c. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must not accept or offer financial inducements or gifts as a part of client referral arrangements with other health care workers
- d. a professional Reiki treatment practitioner must not ask clients to give, lend or bequeath money or gifts that will benefit the health care worker directly or indirectly.

13.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners not to engage in sexual misconduct

13.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must not engage in a sexual or other inappropriate physical or emotional relationship with clients.

13.2 A professional Reiki treatment practitioner should ensure that a reasonable period of time has elapsed since the conclusion of the therapeutic relationship before engaging in a sexual relationship with a client.

14.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to comply with relevant privacy laws

Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must comply with the relevant privacy laws that apply to clients' health information, including the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) and the relevant state or territory legislation.

15.0 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to keep appropriate records

15.1 A professional Reiki treatment practitioner must maintain accurate, legible and up-to-date clinical records for each client consultation and ensure that these are held securely and not subject to unauthorised access.

15.2 A professional Reiki treatment practitioner must take necessary steps to facilitate clients' access to information contained in their health records if requested.

15.3 A professional Reiki treatment practitioner must facilitate the transfer of a client's health record in a timely manner when requested to do so by the client or their legal representative.

16. Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to be covered by appropriate insurance

A professional Reiki treatment practitioner must ensure that appropriate indemnity insurance arrangements are in place in relation to his or her practice.

17. Professional Reiki treatment practitioners to display code and other information

17.1 Professional Reiki treatment practitioners must display or make available a copy of each of the following documents at all premises where they carry on their practice:

- a. a copy of this Code of Conduct
- b. Reiki Australia's Complaints Procedure and information about the way in which clients may make a complaint to the relevant state or territory health complaints entity.

17.2 Copies of these documents must be displayed or made available in a manner that makes them easily visible or accessible to clients.

Discipline

All professional Reiki treatment practitioners are bound by the Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners and, on joining Reiki Australia, shall be required to sign that they have read and subscribe to the above Code. Any professional 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 Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners has a responsibility to notify the Chair 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

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

1. Reiki Australia's Code of Conduct for Professional Reiki Treatment Practitioners
2. Reiki Australia's Complaints Procedure.

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

Reiki Australia gratefully acknowledges the sources RAPMA Rules and the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) complaints procedures in the development of this procedure.
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