

## **IPRO 309 Code of Ethics**

### **Overarching Standard:**

To create effective educational materials for students and technicians in the Orthotic and Prosthetic (O & P) field, specifically the students of Centro Don Bosco and Joliet Junior College, while maintaining the principles of honesty, integrity, and forthrightness.

### **Law:**

*Canon:* Project members shall respect the legal frameworks of both the United States, embodied by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and of the Republic of Colombia, regarding patient privacy, confidentiality and medical practice.

*Pressure:* Simplify treatment process and avoid what are perceived to be excessive or time-consuming measures.

*Pressure:* Through the communication process accidentally reveal private patient information

*Risk:* Educational modules may leave ambiguity or improper instructions for proper handling of confidential or identifying patient information.

*Measure:* Case studies will be fictional with no private information released, while still representing legitimate issues facing amputees.

*Further Information:*

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/index.html>

[U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#)

### **Professional Code:**

*Canon:* Project members shall perform according to the code of ethics of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO), the international accrediting body for O & P practitioners and programs, and the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics (ABC) and National Commission on Orthotics and Prosthetics Education (NCOPE).

*Pressure:* In order to meet deadlines, members may be tempted to skip steps or otherwise perform at less than their best.

*Pressure:* Due to the nature of collaborative effort, individuals may feel underappreciated or misused by the team.

*Risk:* Members may produce sub-standard products as a result of poor motivation or active sabotage.

*Measure:* All project members shall be provided with, become familiar with, and abide by the relevant professional codes of ethics (ISPO, ABC, NCOPE).

*Further Information:*

[U.S. National Society of the ISPO \(International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics\)](#)

[NCOPE - National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education](#)

<http://www.abcop.org/>

### **Industry Standards:**

*Canon:* IPRO members should become aware of and follow the common practices and methodologies that medical doctors, orthotics and prosthetics technicians, physical therapists, and financial institutions utilize. Care should be taken to make sure that IPRO members do not impersonate these professionals nor prescribe orthotic/prosthetic devices.

*Pressure:* People may come to expect the IPRO to prescribe, fabricate, and fit prosthetic/orthotic devices.

*Pressure:* IPRO team members may over-sympathize and provide aid to outside parties.

*Risk:* Stepping outside one's scope of practice, be it prescribing devices, fabricating prosthetics, or assisting in physical therapy.

*Measure:* Scope of practice for the physician, O&P technician, and physical therapist are clearly defined and members of the IPRO are to understand these limitations.

### **Professional Scope of Practice**

*Canon:* Each member shall become aware of the expectations and guidelines that encompass their specific profession, whether it a physician, orthotic and prosthetic technician, physical therapist, or a financial institution.

*Pressure (Physician):* Prescribing devices based on the demands of the patient.

*Pressure (O&P Technician):* Wishing to adjust or modify certain devices in order to satisfy a patient's request without proper medical evaluation.

*Pressure (Physical Therapist):* Attempting to treat or cure ailments that were not noticed by the physician or O&P technician.

*Pressure (all):* Stepping outside the bounds of one scope of practice in order to fulfill the needs of another scope of practice.

*Risk:* Violations of scope of practice may result in legal courses of action and loss of business.

*Risk:* Further aggravating the patient's condition.

*Measure:* All members must become familiar with and remain within their respective scope of practice as well as noting other professions' scopes of practice and abiding by their boundaries.

*Example:* An O&P technician is asked to modify or change a prosthetic device which would result in the O&P technician being required to seek the guidance of a physician in order to prevent a violation of scope of practice.

### **Social, Civic, and Geographical Community:**

*Canon:* IPRO members shall become aware of and abide by the differences of the social, civic, and geographical community and identify where they apply.

*Pressure:* Applying standards from one location in order to assist in another.

*Risk:* Not fully recognizing certain community standards.

*Risk:* Failing to differentiate between different social situations and the nuances that come with each one.

*Measure:* The IPRO team will become acquainted with and carry out the standards of the various social, civic, and geographical communities, especially between the United States and Colombia.

*Example:* Different situations arise which require different responses from the health care professionals in separate countries. For example, families typically accompany patients to their medical appointments in Colombia and are often invited into the office. Conversely, medical appointments within the United States are typically patient-doctor confidential and family members are typically told to remain in the waiting room. This discrepancy could possibly cause complications if the two separate entities were to come together for treatment.

### **Personal Relations:**

*Canon:* Relations with outside parties, whether it be staff or industry personnel, will be carried out with respect and in a professional manner. IPRO team members shall also treat each other as equals and with the respect that everyone deserves.

*Pressure:* Take out frustrations on other team members when something is not completed in a timely manner.

*Pressure:* IPRO members have a lot of other projects outside of the IPRO.

*Risk:* Times of increased stress/strain tends to bring out the worst in people and thus feelings may be hurt and relationships may be strained.

### **Moral Values:**

*Canon:* Credit will be given where credit is due. Therefore, no team member shall put their name on work that is clearly not theirs. Also, the work for the semester shall be divided equally and distributed to people who meet the requirements of the work.

*Pressure:* IPRO members may feel the work was not divided equally or other members are not pulling their own weight.

*Pressure:* IPRO members may feel the need to copy other's work and ultimately attempt to take credit for work that is not their own.

*Risk:* Credit may be given to a certain individual where credit is not due.

*Risk:* Vital information may be omitted and thus will deteriorate the quality of the final product.

*Risk:* Violation of university policy on plagiarism.

*Measure:* Proper schedules and distribution of tasks for IPRO team members will ensure the work is done in a timely manner and that each member has enough work to do for the semester.

This ethics statement has been read and approved by:

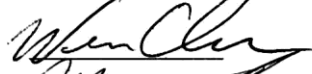
Bhatia, Mrigank



Castro, Manuel



Chan, Wen



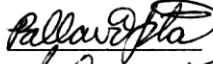
Cosenza, Matthew



Fischer, Stephanie



Gupta, Pallavi



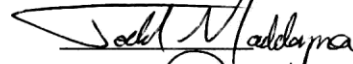
Kang, Xuan



Lucas, Stephanie



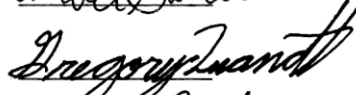
Maddamma, Todd



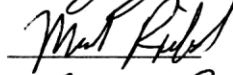
Purcell, Amber



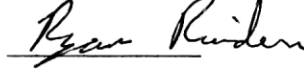
Quandt, Gregory



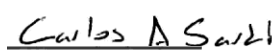
Reibel, Mark



Ruidera, Ryan



3 Sardi, Carlos



Kevin P. Meade, Faculty Advisor

