

Revolution in progress... do not disturb

The International eHealth Code of Ethics

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Why A Code of Ethics?

- " Protect from harm
- " Create ethical environment
- " Pride, not embarrassment
- " Fairness and synergy

Tom Murray

January 2000

Brief history

- " Oct 99: gauntlet at IHC conference NYC
- " Jan 00: eHealth Ethics Summit
- " Feb 00: Steering Group drafts Code
- " Apr 00: end of public consultation
- " May 00: Code launch from Senate
- " To date: 3-pronged strategy – work in progress

How does it look like?

- " Statement of vision
- " Guiding Principles
- " Interpretive guidelines
- " Case histories and commentary

The 8 Principles

1. Candour & trustworthiness
2. Truthfulness & non-deception
3. Quality
4. Informed consent
5. Privacy & data security
6. Professionalism & best practices
7. Responsible partnering
8. Accountability

Implementation

3-pronged strategy

- " The Code Keepers
- " The Implementers
- " Education

Challenges

- " One Code, universal standards
- " Implementation and compliance
- " The Living Code
- " Custodianship and non-partisanship
- " Trust
- " Fund raising

What next?

- " Take part, promote and endorse
- " Educate and inform
- " The culture of ethics
- " International Standard
- " Fund raising
- " Implementation of the 3-pronged strategy

URLs

- " eHealth Code of Ethics: <http://www.ihealthcoalition.org/ethics/ethics.html>
- " The Hastings Center: <http://www.thehastingscenter.org>
- " Health Informatics Europe: <http://hi-europe.co.uk>
- " BHIA: <http://bhia.org>
- " Ahmad Risk: a.risk@eurimed.fr – risk@cybermedic.org

Remember

“A little rebellion now and then is a good thing.”

“We hold these truths to be sacred and undeniable; that all men are created equal and independent, that from that equal creation they derive rights inherent and inalienable, among which are the preservation of life, and liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

“All, too, will bear in mind this sacred principle, that though the will of the majority is in all cases to prevail, that will to be rightful must be reasonable; that the minority possess their equal rights, which equal law must protect, and to violate would be oppression.”

Thomas Jefferson