



## Global Chemists' Code of Ethics

### Introduction - Making Positive Change Happen

Chemical practitioners<sup>1</sup> should promote a positive perception and public understanding and appreciation of chemistry. This is done through research, innovation, teamwork, collaboration, community outreach, and high ethical standards. Chemistry professionals<sup>2</sup> should act as role models, mentors, and advocates of the safe and secure application of chemistry to benefit humankind and preserve the environment for future generations. They should instill and encourage curiosity and innovation early and often, and recognize and award achievements where appropriate. Finally, chemistry professionals should provide professional inputs and opinions to government and other decision makers regarding industrial, environmental, and other issues.

### Environment

Environmental sustainability should be an integral part of research and education. Chemistry professionals must use their expertise to ensure the safety and health of coworkers and the community, and to protect the environment for future generations.

Chemical practitioners should work within their organizations to help develop sound environmental plans and policies. Chemistry professionals should encourage inclusion of environmental sustainability as a key element in chemistry instruction and engagement with the community.

Chemical practitioners are responsible to ensure the proper use and disposal of chemicals and instruments. They should endeavor to increase their knowledge of the short and long term effects of chemicals on the environment and to apply informed quality control principles.

### Research

Research in chemical sciences should benefit humankind and improve quality of life, while protecting the environment and preserving it for future generations. Researchers should conduct their work with the highest integrity and transparency, avoid conflicts of interest, and practice collegiality in the best way. Research should promote the exchange of new scientific and technological information and knowledge relating to the application of chemistry for the benefit of humankind and the environment.

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<sup>1</sup> **Chemical practitioners:** Scientists, engineers, technicians, trades people, business people or anyone else who has contact with chemicals at work or at home.

<sup>2</sup> **Chemistry professionals:** As a subset of chemical practitioners, chemistry professionals refers to scientists and engineers, who, by virtue of their specialized education, certifications or licensures, are authorized to offer chemistry services to the public.



## Scientific Writing and Publishing

Scientific publication is a way to share new knowledge. Chemistry professionals should promote and disseminate scientific knowledge in research and innovation through outreach, scientific writing and publication for sustainable development. Chemistry professionals should maintain honesty and integrity in all stages of the publication process, which must meet the highest possible standards of data reproducibility and correctness without plagiarism. Chemistry professionals who supervise others have a responsibility to ensure that their scientific writings are free of defects and errors.

Chemistry professionals should promote peaceful, beneficial applications and uses of science and technology through a variety of media. Chemistry professionals have a responsibility to assess information intended for release prior to dissemination.

## Safety

A culture of safety is very important and should be sustained by management, including academic, industrial and government leadership. Management should work with chemical practitioners in all aspects of safety including training, regular audits and the development of safety culture. There should always be awareness of safety regulations protecting health and the environment.

All chemical practitioners should exercise safety procedures. Engineering and administrative controls for safety should be in place. Proper personal protective equipment and garments should be used when working with chemicals or in an area with hazards.

## Security

A culture of security is important to protect dual use chemicals and facilities. All stakeholders in the chemical supply chain should ensure and practice chemical security. Chemical practitioners should ensure that laboratories and industrial facilities have the capacity to secure chemicals. Security measures need to be reviewed regularly. Management should have oversight of security and should follow all local and international laws and regulations.

