



DEPARTEMENT:ADM/ BUREAU DU DOYEN

TITRE: Charter of Ethics

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“Ethics in Teaching and the Teaching of Ethics”

Inspired by the Charter of the International Conference of the Deans of the Faculties of Pharmacy of French Expression (CIDPHARMEF)

The ethics inherent in the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University consist of applied ethics where the scope of application is limited to the Faculty. Aspects of pharmacy ethics in pharmacy or industrial practices, even in biology, are therefore deliberately ignored; they are taught in the course of ethics in pharmacy.

The Charter of Ethics is a moral commitment that the Faculty of Pharmacy makes.

The Charter of Ethics of the Faculty of Pharmacy is applicable to two areas:

- The ethics of the institution itself in its educational training program and research activities and studies; and
- The initial and continuing education in the ethics in pharmacy.

I. Preamble

All the Faculties of Health Sciences, inclusive of the Faculty of Pharmacy, base the entirety of their activities on values which inspire and encourage respect for the dignity and integrity of the human person and for solidarity. These universal values are intended to govern the relations between the actors of the health system, i.e. patients, doctors, pharmacists, teachers, researchers and students. The specific values have already been set at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University, adopted by the Faculty Council, and form an integral part of the internal regulations. They are communicated and spread throughout the Faculty, to teachers, to employees and to students. These values consist of:

- Equity
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Excellence
- Citizenship
- Commitment
- Responsibility
- Communication
- Professionalism
- Continuous Learning
- Respect for human dignity and rights
- Supremacy of the human dimension to the detriment of material profit.

These values require the Faculty to respect its commitments to the students it trains, to the teachers and researchers who ensure its dynamics, and to the institutions on which it depends as well as those affiliated to it. Responsibility to society requires optimizing the quality of the educational training program and research studies that are organized in its realm.

The Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University complies with the laws and regulations in force in Lebanon. When the activities for which it is in charge are not subject to legal codification, or in the event this codification is not sufficiently explicit, the Faculty must be guided by the principles



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and recommendations of national and / or international ethics committees. In all cases, the Faculty of Pharmacy bases its activities on the respect for Human Rights.

II. The Mission of the Faculty of Pharmacy

The Faculty of Pharmacy has defined its institutional objectives. Its mission consists of the following: "In harmony with the mission of the Lebanese University, the Faculty of Pharmacy works in the public sector to provide pharmacy students and post-graduates with a patient-centered education program, in view of meeting the evolving needs of the health care system of modern society. It is committed to ensuring academic, scientific and professional excellence ".

With respect to its vision, it is the following: "The Faculty of Pharmacy will be recognized nationally as an academic center of excellence for quality patient-centered education and for meeting the health care needs of society, and for its contributions to research. The faculty will effectively contribute to health care reform in the country and will be the partner of choice for health care professionals as well as act as the interface to all potential partners operating in the country. "

The aim of teaching in the Faculties of Pharmacy is to provide an adequate educational training program for a responsible pharmacist, i.e. a man of science who listens to and serves a population in its health care journey at both the individual and collective levels, by securing and optimizing the health care products involved in the adopted therapeutic protocols. To this end, each Faculty seeks to reconcile the responses to each individual's health care needs and the available health resources. As a result, initial and continuing education in the ethics in pharmacy stands amongst the educational priorities of the Faculty. Hence, the objectives adopted by the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University are the following:

- Providing an effective, efficient, innovative, varied and patient-centered education, enabling the student to acquire all necessary and needed skills specific to the diverse professions in pharmacy.
- Guaranteeing quality through continuous evaluation and assessment of curricula and processes.
- Warranting the existence of an environment open to communication, innovation and participation.
- Striving for partnerships for the development of the professional practice.
- Promoting and encouraging scientific progress and providing support for research.
- Respecting the professional values, ethics and deontology.
- Providing a support framework for continuing education.

The research carried out at the Faculty of Pharmacy aims to produce knowledge for the immediate or potential individual benefit of patients and /or for the collective benefit of individuals, and which takes into account the repercussions and impact on the environment, individuals and society. At the Lebanese University, research is active and governed by a research policy focused on several themes, in basic and applied research.

With regard to the services the Faculty of Pharmacy provides, it has struck a partnership with other key players in the health system. The objective is to ensure the best level of health for all citizens while respecting a spirit of fairness and an optimal use of resources. The Faculty strives to offer continuing education services via the academic diplomas it grants.

From the core principles inspiring the mission and services of the Faculty of Pharmacy, it logically follows that the purpose of education and research in the field of pharmacy cannot be primarily of a



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lucrative nature. This is, in any case, in perfect alignment and harmony with the mission of the Lebanese University, which is a public institution.

On the other hand, based on these same principles, it emerges that the Faculties of Pharmacy provide for the assessment of their activities. This is applied at the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University and contributes to the improvement of teaching.

The ethical facet of these different missions is embodied in the social responsibility that the faculties of pharmacy may have whenever the concerns of stakeholders are taken into consideration with respect to the practical and professional aspects of the Faculty. Hence, the Faculty of Pharmacy has the duty to participate in the design, implementation and evaluation of health policies by developing collective health projects involving the various partners in order to prepare students, as soon as possible, to their future role as health actors. The response to these different expectations entails that the faculties of pharmacy boast strong values and follow rigorous ethics.

III. Teaching and Research Resource Persons at the Faculty of Pharmacy

The selection criteria of resource persons consist of the professional skills specific to each function in accordance with institutional objectives and in accordance with the goals assigned to the education program in pharmacy, as defined at the Faculty. The recruitment and promotion of resource persons in teaching, research, technical and administrative support by the Faculty of Pharmacy are carried out based on specific criteria and pursuant to fair and transparent methods, without any kind of discrimination related to race, sex, age, socioeconomic, political or religious affiliation.

All teachers and/or researchers, as well as technical and administrative support persons, must accept the principle of a third party's ethical view and consideration with respect to everything they undertake to do when carrying out their assignments, tasks and missions.

IV. Teaching Ethics of Pharmacy Students

With respect to pharmacy students:

Entry and selection during the studies at the Faculty of Pharmacy are based on fair and just criteria and methods, without any kind of discrimination based on race, sex, socioeconomic, political or religious affiliation. The only criteria retained are those in accordance with the goals inherent in the pharmacy educational training program as defined by the Rules and Regulations and with the student's personal capacities, skills and qualifications.

The Faculty of Pharmacy provides all students enrolled in the initial training program and all practitioners enrolled in continuing education programs with equity of access to learning resources while respecting the objectives it has set and optimizing the means it has at its disposal.

With respect to patient participation in medical and paramedical education:

The initial and continuing educational training programs of pharmacists and other healthcare professionals is a process of acquiring professional skills. This educational training program requires practice. As a result, pharmacists enrolled in education programs need technical equipment adapted to their training and an environment amenable to the practice of their profession, in particular with regard to dispensing health products, such as in the context of a hospital pharmacy.



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The relationship with the patient via the medical and paramedical team can take place in the context of a university hospital or in other hospital or healthcare facilities.

Therefore, the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University, in the context of the agreements that bind it to healthcare institutions and facilities, fully adopts and agrees on all procedures aiming to ensure respect for professional secrecy in relation to patients treated in the said healthcare institutions and facilities.

With respect to the organization of studies, trainings and internships:

The Faculty of Pharmacy, alongside its partner institutions, fully endorses and upholds recommendations and procedures aimed at guaranteeing the ethical excellence of studies, trainings and internships, in line with the purpose of the educational training program in pharmacy. It also guarantees the ethical excellence of the education program for which it is directly responsible, and this via the development of procedures adapted to the various academic activities.

With respect to the teaching of knowledge:

The Faculty of Pharmacy is responsible for the ethical dimension of the use of the knowledge that is provided in its study programs and curricula. This taught knowledge is not necessarily neutral with regard to what it implies. Hence, it is quintessential that this knowledge, in all its dimensions, must respect the dignity of the human person which lies in the quality assurance of the health care products.

V. The Ethics of Research at the Faculty of Pharmacy

The Faculty of Pharmacy bases its academic research on the principles of humanism, integrity and scientific excellence.

With respect to the students participating in research activities and studies:

Students acting as resource persons for research benefit from the same conditions which govern all other research personnel, whether it concerns, on the one hand, the general working conditions and, on the other hand, the selection and evaluation criteria.

With respect to the research laboratories of the Faculty of Pharmacy:

The selection of themes and methods are based on the best anticipated effects and the most beneficial outcomes for the people involved in research, for the population and for the environment. These choices cannot account for the loss of professional independence of researchers or of the Faculty of Pharmacy per se. These choices imply respect for the dignity of the human person and for his environment.

The analysis and disclosure of research results ensure the protection of the relevant study subjects in accordance with the principle of medical data confidentiality.

Through the research activities and studies each researcher linked to the Faculty conducts, he contributes to building the reputation of his own structure or unit as well as to that of the institution itself, while ensuring respect for other researchers.

With respect to the patients or healthy volunteers participating in research studies:



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Pharmacists involved in clinical studies with other healthcare professionals require that healthy patients or volunteers participate in their research. In the agreements that bind them to these people and to healthcare institutions, the Faculty of Pharmacy adopts and agrees on procedures that ensure respect for the dignity and autonomy of people participating in research, taking into account the principles of beneficence and confidentiality.

Strict and rigorous ethical rules must be applied when conducting research or teaching on post-mortem donated bodies, organs and other human body parts. In all cases, the full respect of the donor's will when expressed and of the laws in force is mandatory.

With respect to animals participating in the research:

Any use of animals for experimental purposes engages the moral responsibility of each person involved. The Faculty of Pharmacy is morally liable for the experiments carried out on laboratory animals on its premises. Furthermore, it applies best practices when it comes to animal experimentation and respect for animal ethics in biomedical research practices.

With respect to the use and promotion of knowledge stemming from research:

The Faculty of Pharmacy of the Lebanese University is responsible for the ethical dimension of knowledge originating in research carried out under its aegis. This is intended for the immediate or potential individual benefits of patients and/or collective benefits which takes into account possible repercussions on the environment, individuals and society.

The knowledge stemming from research work is not necessarily neutral and possesses ethical dimensions; hence, the Faculty of Pharmacy calls upon the investigators to weigh it up and to conduct proper assessments and evaluations of said knowledge. The use of the latter can only be considered ethical if it respects a number of well-defined criteria, the main one being respect for the dignity of the human person. The potential benefits and repercussions must be of benefit to all those involved in research, and, first and foremost, to all concerned patients.

All researchers, including students, should benefit from the scientific returns and impacts in proportion to their active participation in the work, pending this does not affect their professional independence, whether in their health care, research or teaching activities. The Faculty ensures that researchers, including the students involved, receive recognition of their intellectual property.

VI. The Ethics Governing Cooperation with Other Faculties of Pharmacy

Cooperation with respect to education and research is implemented with private Lebanese or foreign institutions. In these cooperation agreements, each faculty of pharmacy recognizes the same values centered on human dignity, applies the same criteria centered on the principle of justice, and respects the same commitments of transparency and accountability, in the same manner as in the national or regional agreements it is bound by.

VII. Learning about Ethics in Pharmacy

The Faculty of Pharmacy has an unequivocal training program in pharmaceutical professionalism, which includes initial and continuing educational training programs in the ethics in pharmacy.