



New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians' Society

NZATS Code of Ethics

Membership with the New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians' Society comes with an expectation and requirement that members will practice in a professional and ethical manner at all times. This is for the benefit of the patients, the community, the Society and the Anaesthetic Technician profession as a whole.

All Anaesthetic Technicians, both trainee and Registered, must ensure they familiarise themselves with and adhere to these standards.

Responsibility and Accountability

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees will act in such a manner that will justify public trust and confidence. They will demonstrate high standards of professional competency through their conduct and appearance whilst being responsible and accountable for their own practise. Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees must take all reasonable precautions to reduce the risk of harm to patients and colleagues. This includes maintaining safe personal practice, reporting concerns about safety, and taking appropriate action when necessary.

Respect

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees will practice in such a manner as to demonstrate respect for their patients and colleagues alike. They must always act in the best interests of the patient, ensuring privacy and dignity is maintained. They will practice within the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and adhere to the Health and Disability Commissioner's Code of Rights. These include, but are not limited to, avoiding prejudice against: - ethnicity, nationality, socio-economic demographic, gender, sexuality/sexual identity, religious beliefs and/or individual health status. Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees must maintain appropriate interactions with patients and healthcare professionals.

Communication

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees must strive to communicate effectively and collaborate with all members of the theatre team in the delivery of patient-centred care.

Patient Privacy and Confidentiality

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees must respect and maintain patient privacy and keep all patient information in the strictest confidence. This includes using all forms of communication responsibly (e.g. - social media). Communication and access of patient information should be limited only to that which is pertinent to their patient's care.

Scope of Practice

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians and trainees must operate only within their scope, with a working knowledge of local policies, professional principles and government legislation pertinent to their practice.

They will provide skilled assistance to the anaesthetist, practicing only in situations where they have the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience. Where a situation falls outside the Registered Anaesthetic

Technician's or trainee's scope of practice, they will recognise their limitations and seek guidance from the appropriate source.

Maintaining Professional Standards

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians must strive to develop their knowledge and keep their skills up to date through participating in continuing professional development.

Formal and informal feedback should be taken seriously and used to improve personal practice.

Registered Anaesthetic Technicians must share their skills, knowledge and experience with trainees and colleagues where appropriate, for the benefit of the patient.

Fitness to Practice

If a Registered Anaesthetic Technician or trainee's own physical or mental health may affect their performance, judgement or put others at risk for any reason, then appropriate people need to be informed and action taken until a resolution is met