

# Ethical principles

## Policy statement

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# Ethical principles

The World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) expects physical therapists to:

- respect the rights, personal dignity, privacy and autonomy of all individuals
  - comply with the laws and regulations governing the practice of physical therapy in the country in which they practise and the policies of their professional associations and regulatory bodies
  - accept responsibility for the exercise of sound professional judgement
  - provide honest, competent and accountable professional services
  - provide fair, equitable, inclusive and quality services
  - charge and receive a just and fair level of remuneration for their services
  - provide accurate and appropriate information to patients/clients,<sup>1</sup> to other agencies and the community about physical therapy
  - contribute to the planning and development of services which address the health needs of the community
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**Glossary** ([www.world.physio/resources/glossary](http://www.world.physio/resources/glossary))

**Equity**

**Inclusion**

**Service standards**

**Standards of practice**

Approval, review and related policy information	
<b>Date adopted:</b>	Originally adopted at the 13th General Meeting of WCPT June 1995 as a Declaration of Principle and accompanying appendix. Declaration revised and re-approved at the 16th General Meeting of WCPT June 2007. Ethical principles approved at the 17th General Meeting of WCPT, June 2011, with an accompanying policy statement. Re-approved at the 18th General Meeting of WCPT May 2015. Reviewed and re-approved at the 19th General Meeting of WCPT May 2019.
<b>Date for review:</b>	2023
<b>Related WCPT Policy material:</b>	WCPT policy statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ethical responsibilities of physical therapists and WCPT members</li></ul> WCPT endorsements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Endorsement: Rights of the child</li><li>• Endorsement: The United Nations standard rules on the equalisation of opportunities for persons with disabilities</li></ul>

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<sup>1</sup> The term patient/client is used in this document as a generic term to refer to individuals and groups of individuals who can benefit from physical therapy interventions/treatments.