



Aspects of Professionalism

Aspect of professionalism	Public CVI - % of public who agreed aspect was an "essential" part of being a good doctor	Doctor CVI - % of doctors who agreed aspect was an "essential" part of being a good doctor	Difference Between
Behaving honestly and with integrity	94.1%	98.5%	+4.4%
Respecting patients' confidentiality and privacy	94.1%	98.0%	+3.9%
Behaving in a reliable and dependable way	93.8%	96.0%	+2.2%
Acting in a responsible fashion towards patients	93.7%	97.8%	+4.1%
Treating patients fairly and without prejudice	93.0%	97.3%	+4.3%
Being accountable for one's actions	93.0%	95.6%	+2.6%
Being attentive to the needs of patients	92.5%	94.3%	+1.8%
Communicating in a clear and effective manner	91.9%	97.0%	+5.1%
Functioning according to the law	91.7%	90.4%	-1.3%
Adhering to professional rules and regulations	91.0%	89.9%	-1.1%
Showing compassion towards one's patients	90.2%	93.3%	+3.1%
Respecting a patient's autonomy	89.9%	92.3%	+2.4%
Providing advice to patients and colleagues when required	89.5%	89.9%	+0.4%
Taking a dedicated approach to one's work	89.4%	85.4%	-4%
Avoiding substance or alcohol misuse	89.1%	94.8%	+5.7%
Being sound in judgement and in decision making	88.4%	95.8%	+7.4%
Being accessible to patients	88.2%	67.4%	-20.8%
Acting with confidence in one's duties	87.2%	73.3%	-13.9%
Being aware of one's limitations as a practitioner	87.1%	95.8%	+8.7%
Being empathetic when caring for patients	86.6%	91.6%	+5%
Not using one's professional status for personal gain	85.2%	80.7%	-4.5%
Reflecting on one's actions with a view to improvement	85.1%	88.4%	+3.3%
Treating other healthcare professionals fairly and without prejudice	84.5%	91.1%	+6.6%
Respecting colleagues of the same profession	84.3%	86.7%	+2.4%
Having a positive attitude towards professional development	83.8%	84.2%	+0.4%
Being able to manage situations where there is a conflict of interest	83.8%	86.9%	+3.1%
Treating colleagues fairly and without prejudice	82.8%	92.8%	+10%
Being receptive to constructive criticism	80.7%	84.2%	+3.5%
Making effective use of the resources available	80.7%	80.0%	+0.07%
Acting in a responsible fashion towards colleagues	80.2%	86.2%	+6%
Working well as a member of a team	79.8%	83.5%	+3.7%
Being punctual	78.8%	69.4%	-9.4%
Being adaptable to changes in the workplace	78.2%	70.9%	-7.3%
Working with one's colleagues towards common goals	77.0%	73.6%	-3.4%
Being sensitive to the cultural background of colleagues and patients	76.5%	75.6%	-0.9%
Showing leadership skills and initiative	75.9%	69.9%	-6%
Behaving with composure	75.3%	69.6%	-5.7%
Showing altruism towards patients i.e. Selflessness towards patients	74.4%	55.8%	-18.6%
Being attentive to the needs of colleagues	73.4%	69.9%	-3.5%
Avoiding a cynical approach in one's job	71.3%	55.8%	-15.5%
Acting in a responsible fashion towards society	66.5%	70.6%	+4.1%
Conforming to social norms	63.8%	31.4%	-32.4%
Being mindful of one's personal appearance	60.5%	56.8%	-3.7%
Being well- read outside one's professional area (Non-evidence-based item)	51.7%	36.0%	-15.7%
Being physically fit (Non-evidence-based item)	48.8%	42.0%	-6.8%
Having a good sense of humour (Non-evidence-based item)	47.8%	35.1%	-12.7%
Speaking with a refined accent (Non-evidence-based item)	26.6%	10.4%	-16.2%
Always being busy (Non-evidence-based item)	21.5%	5.2%	-16.3%
Being psychically attractive (Non-evidence-based item)	21.2%	7.4%	-13.8%
Earning a high salary (Non-evidence-based item)	18.8%	32.1%	+13.3%

Methodology : Doctors' Professionalism

Professionalism is at the core of the patient - doctor relationship and is absolutely fundamental for patient safety and the delivery of high-quality health care. The purpose of this 8th edition of the Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners is twofold. It provides principles based guidance to doctors on a wide range of scenarios which are likely to arise over the course of their professional careers and also clarifies for patients the standards of care which they should expect from their doctor.

The Council has identified three **Pillars of Professionalism** which underpin good care and are the foundations for the principles in this Guide:

- **Partnership** – doctors working together with patients and colleagues towards shared aims, with mutual respect;
- **Practice** – the behaviour and values that support good care, putting the interests and well-being of patients first; and
- **Performance** – the behaviours and processes that provide the foundation for good care.

These are the values and principles we expect all doctors to share and, therefore, have provided a structure for the remainder of the guide, which has been arranged under these three pillars.