



## **IBHRE Code of Ethics Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to communicate the International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiner's (IBHRE) expectations regarding the ethical behavior of its certified professionals. This policy contains standards of conduct and ethical behavior for professionals in the field of cardiac pacing and cardiac electrophysiology, examples of unethical behavior and potential sanctions to be enforced by the IBHRE governing body in the event an exam candidate or certified professional is found guilty of unethical or illegal behavior.

### **I. IBHRE Code of Ethics**

The International Board of Heart Rhythm Examiners holds all of its candidates and certified professionals working in the field of cardiac pacing and cardiac electrophysiology to the following responsibilities:

- A. Uphold the values, ethics, and mission of the profession and IBHRE
- B. Conduct all personal and professional activities with honesty, integrity, respect, fairness, good faith and competence in a manner that will reflect well on the profession and IBHRE
- C. Comply with all laws and regulations of the jurisdictions in which the professional conducts his/her activities
- D. Maintain competence and proficiency in their profession by undertaking a personal program of assessment and continuing professional education
- E. Respect professional confidences and comply with all laws pertaining to patient confidentiality and disclosure
- F. Enhance the dignity and image of the profession and IBHRE through positive personal actions
  
- G. Be truthful, candid and compassionate in all professional communications with patients and others in the practice of cardiac pacing and electrophysiology and avoid information that is false, misleading, inflammatory, and deceptive, or information that would create unreasonable expectations

IBHRE endorses and hereby incorporates by reference the Code of Ethics of the Heart Rhythm Society, as relevant to candidates and certified professionals in their work for IBHRE and in their practices and activities in the fields of pacing and electrophysiology. The Code of Ethics of the Heart Rhythm Society can be found at **[www.HRSonline.org](http://www.HRSonline.org)**.

### **II. Cause for Sanctions from IBHRE**

IBHRE may issue sanctions in the event an exam candidate or certified professional:

- A. Is found to have falsified or misrepresented any personal or demographic information provided on an exam application or otherwise requested by IBHRE;
- B. Misrepresents or misuses an IBHRE credential;
- C. Is found and proven guilty of cheating on an IBHRE certification examination;
- D. Is found and proven guilty of assisting others to cheat on a certification examination;
- E. Is found in possession of IBHRE examinations, test items or any other confidential and proprietary materials without direct authorization from IBHRE;
- F. Is convicted of a crime, or has undergone limitation, sanctions, revocation, or suspension by a professional health care organization, licensing board or any other private or governmental body related to cardiac care or public health safety;  
or
- G. Is found guilty of gross or repeated negligence or malpractice in professional practice by a medical review board or court of law.

### III. Sanctions

IBHRE may issue sanctions that include, but are not limited to:

- A. Present and/or future denial of initial certification or recertification
- B. Revocation of current certification credential(s) with the requirement to discontinue use of all claims to certification and return of any certificates issued by IBHRE.
- C. Legal action in the event the individual fails to comply with sanctions exercised by IBHRE or has perpetrated financial or other legally defensible damages against the organization.

### IV. Agreement to Confidentiality

#### *Candidate and Certified professionals*

By submitting (or having submitted) an application to take an IBHRE certification examination, exam candidates and certified professionals agree that they shall not disclose confidential information (whether oral or written in any form of media) related to, provided by or discussed during the examination or any other information identified as confidential. Exam candidates acknowledge that test questions appearing on the examination are the confidential information and copyrighted proprietary property of IBHRE, and are not to be copied, reproduced or disclosed to others.

IBHRE certified professionals and exam candidates should further understand that the signature provided on the exam application constitutes binding acceptance of these conditions.

Failure to comply with this confidentiality agreement may result in sanctions as articulated under Section III of this Code of Ethics and determined to be appropriate by an official review panel appointed by the IBHRE Board of Directors.

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