



ITTC

International Technology Transfer Center

A program of the International Consortium of Universities  
for Drug Demand Reduction

## International Technology Transfer Center (ITTC) Network Code of Ethics

The ITTC mission is possible thanks to people and organizations committed to the incorporation of scientific evidence at individual, organizational, and systems levels while adhering to human rights and ethical values related to health care, teaching and research.

The credibility and legitimacy of the ITTC Network is based on the quality of the services provided. This implies not only excellence in processes and products, but also careful consideration of relationships and interactions with stakeholders at all levels and across sectors.

It is the responsibility of each ITTC to ensure that all individuals working on behalf of the ITTC agree to adhere to the following code.

- 1. Institutional code of ethics.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC must adhere to their own university's code of ethics.
- 2. Scope of practice.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC must limit their scope of activities to areas related to drug demand reduction that align with international standards, including substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery.
- 3. Role in advocacy.** When outreaching to policymakers or other stakeholders, all those working on behalf of an ITTC must promote human rights-based and evidence-based practices and policies.
- 4. Personal responsibility.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC seek to help reduce the damage caused by substance use in individuals, families, and communities. This goal should always guide their work. They should always act in a professional and responsible way. They should be honest and fair in their professional dealings, act with integrity, be conscientious, careful, and thorough in their work, and take account of their obligations under the law and to the wider public interest.
- 5. Statements.** In making statements to other professionals and the public, all those working on behalf of an ITTC should recognize the difference between fact and opinion, acknowledge where professional opinions differ, and state as fact only what has been empirically validated as such.
- 6. People.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC must respect the personal dignity of individuals and honor diversity. The ITTC Network does not tolerate any form of violence, discrimination, harassment, or retribution within our Network. We are committed to creating, managing, leveraging, and valuing diversity. We work hard to create a positive work environment where everyone is appreciated, proud, satisfied, and adds value to the Network.
- 7. Honor colleagues' work.** In alignment with point six above, all those working on behalf of an ITTC will respect the work of their fellow ITTC colleagues. ITTCs will not take credit for another ITTC's work nor will they use their work without permission or proper citation.
- 8. Professional development.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC must continually improve knowledge and skills and advance their professional practice through activities such as professional training, education, and interaction with colleagues and specialists in substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery.
- 9. Network responsibility.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC are responsible for the integrity and credibility of the Network overall. They should act responsibly in good faith and use due

care in their work. They should not misrepresent material facts or allow their independent judgment to be subordinated.

- 10. Professional standards.** All those working on behalf of an ITTC must disclose any past disciplinary action taken against them by an employer or professional body in relation to unprofessional or unethical conduct. Where someone working for an ITTC has serious doubts about how to handle a particular situation, including in relation to this code of ethics, they should discuss this with their supervisor and/or leadership of ICUDDR at the earliest opportunity.
- 11. Research.** When conducting research, ITTCs must protect the rights of research participants, take necessary actions to enhance research validity, and maintain scientific or academic integrity.
- 12. Conflicts of Interest.** It is expected that business decisions are made in the best interest of the ITTC Network. Actions must be based on sound business judgment, and not motivated by personal interest or gain. Any situation that creates or appears to create a conflict of interest between personal interests and the interests of the ITTC Network must be avoided. Potential conflict of interest situations must be reported to the leadership of ICUDDR.
- 13. Financial support.** ITTCs will not accept funding or other forms of support that stem from illegal or unethical sources that are in direct opposition to the work of substance use prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support services. For example, ITTCs will not accept resources from a person or entity who distributes or sells illicit drugs.

This code of ethics was first approved by the ITTC Directors on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November 2023.

The ITTC Directors last reviewed this code of ethics in November 2023.