Code of Conduct

Dermatoscopy and Surgical Blog of the Skin Cancer College Australasia

Purpose of the Blog

To provide a forum for the discussion of de-identified skin cancer cases and the exchange of clinical opinion and ideas for the purpose of shared learning, professional development and improved patient diagnosis and management.

The Blog Ten Commandments:

Our code of ethics as medical professionals will guide what we write:

1. We will respect the confidentiality of patients, and others, and ensure their right to privacy.
2. We will correct inaccurate or misleading postings in a timely manner.
3. We will disclose conflicts of interest or bias.
4. We will acknowledge the work of others, respect intellectual property rights, and disclose any sources, and not infringe upon a copyright or trademark.
5. We will not say anything online that we would not say in person.
6. We are committed to civility and will not post unacceptable content, and understand that any comments which contain it may be deleted.
7. We will not abuse, harass, threaten others or use offensive or derogatory language.
8. We will not use language that is libellous, knowingly false, ad-hominem, or misrepresents another person.
9. We will uphold the Purpose of the Blog and avoid content that is not consistent with this.
10. We understand that when someone is not abiding by this Code of Conduct, action will be taken and the blog Chairman reserves the right to restrict or remove any user’s access to the blog.

Access to the Blog

- Automatic for all current SCCA Members
- By invitation to other medical practitioners and interested parties following recommendation from one of the blog Authors
Governance of the Blog

Governance of the blog in terms of content and observing the Code of Conduct shall rest with the Blog Chairman. This person shall be:

- A current and active Author on the blog
- Can be self nominated or accept nomination by another blog Author
- Receive a majority of votes from all current blog Authors
- A current member of the Skin Cancer College Australasia

The Blog Chairman may appoint up to two other blog Authors to assist him/her in their role and to help adjudicate and/or deputise if required.

Appointment of Blog Authors

Potential new Authors to the blog will be invited by the Blog Chairman to submit a draft case. Draft cases will be reviewed by the incumbent blog Authors and, subject to majority approval of their case, the new Author will be appointed.

The team of blog Authors will remain at 10 people with two Authors being rotated every 6 months. This means the average term for an Author will be 2 years.

All blog posts will remain the intellectual property of the respective Author(s).

Non-compliance with the Code of Conduct

In the event of conflict or misrepresentation via the blog, the Blog Chairman will make every effort to communicate privately and directly to the person(s) involved - or find an intermediary who can do so - before publishing any posts or comments about the issue.

If a blog user does not comply with the Code of Conduct, they will receive two warnings from the Blog Chairman. If non-compliance persists, they may be excluded at the discretion of the Blog Chairman and College President either permanently, or for a term to be determined by the Blog Chairman.

After exclusion from the blog, a user may make an application in writing to the Blog Chairman for readmission. Readmission may be approved by a majority vote from the Blog Chairman and College Board.

Administration and maintenance

Funding, administrative management and ongoing maintenance of the functionality of the blog shall rest with the Skin Cancer College Australasia.