

Endorsement Guidelines

Guidelines for Endorsing Ethical Collaboration in Health: An International Consensus Framework

Revised and Adopted 2025

The Consensus Framework is currently supported by the International Alliance for Patients' Organizations (IAPO), International Council of Nurses (ICN), International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations (IFPMA), International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), the World Medical Association (WMA) and International Hospital Federation (IHF), as all partners have a mutual interest in ensuring that the relationship between health stakeholders is ethical and fosters evidence-based decision making.

The Consensus Framework has been established to support partnerships that will aim to deliver greater patient benefits and support high quality patient care. Derived from the individual codes of ethical practice and health policy positions of the six supporting organizations, it is based on five overarching principles:

- putting patients first;
- supporting ethical research and innovation;
- ensuring independence and ethical conduct;
- promoting transparency and accountability; and
- upholding responsible use of health data and technology.

The Consensus Framework highlights common values held by all partners and the on-going commitment to protect and promote values such as transparency, respect, trust, and clear and objective information about health treatments.

It is important that all parties in healthcare delivery operate under ethical standards and principles. In this respect, the signatory partners invite and welcome other health associations, such as hospital associations and other pharmaceutical sectors, including domestic, generics, devices and diagnostic producers, to endorse the Consensus Framework at the global level and work together at the national level with all partners to implement high standards of practice. It is essential that all parties commit to ethical conduct and interactions which uphold high standards and integrity to ensure the well-being of patients worldwide.

Organizations wishing to endorse the Consensus Framework should be able to demonstrate a public commitment to ethical conduct, shared values and promote the Consensus Framework with internal and external stakeholders. In addition, organizations should consider the following actions:

- Issuing a public statement in support of the Consensus Framework and its principles.
- Having or striving to have established internal guidelines similar to the Consensus Framework that guide ethical interactions and collaborations with external partners.
- Engaging with partners and contributing to activities that support the roll-out and the implementation of the Consensus Framework at the national level.

If the signatory partners agree that the above criteria have been met, the names and logos of the organizations should be listed on the appropriate documents and websites as the official endorsers of the Consensus Framework.

For inquiries please contact any of the following:

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