

SCMESA Code of Ethics

- To render the highest level of care promptly and competently, taking into account the health and safety of the patient.
- To serve all patients regardless of race, creed, national origin or reason of illness.
- To provide quality home medical equipment and service which are appropriate for the patient's needs.
- To involve the patient so that he/she may make informed decisions about his/her care and about the equipment he/she uses.
- To respect the confidential nature of the patient's records and not to disclose any information without prior authorization, except as required by law.
- To explain fully and accurately to patients and/or caregiver the patient's rights and responsibilities with regard to the rental, sale or service of home medical equipment.
- To inform the patient/caregiver of the charges, expected insurance coverage and payment policies as they relate to the equipment and services provided.
- To continue to expand and improve professional knowledge and skills so as to provide patients with equipment and services which are continually updated.
- To abide by all Federal, State and local laws and regulations which govern the home medical equipment industry.
- To avoid participating, directly or indirectly, with a source of patient referrals in a "captive referral arrangement" whereby patients are directed to utilize a supplier of home medical equipment in derogation of the patient's right to select a supplier of his/her choice.
- To use fair and honest competitive practices and not make derogatory comments about one's competitor (without true reason) because such comments reflect negatively on the entire industry.
- To act in good faith, to be honest, truthful and fair to all concerned.
- The membership finds unacceptable the offering of any inducement to obtain business, such as free goods, items not medically necessary, or payment of referral fees to therapists, social workers, and doctors (including waiver of co-insurance and deductibles)

Date _____

Signature _____