

PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT

IHRIM Professional Code of Conduct Rev 2008

**INSTITUTE OF HEALTH RECORD &
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

CODE OF CONDUCT

It has been widely recognised that Health Record and Information Professionals play an important role and provide a significant contribution to enhancing the quality and efficiency of healthcare provision throughout the NHS. The original Code of Ethics for members was issued in 1990 with acknowledgement to the Canadian Association of Medical Record Librarians for the work undertaken by their association in this respect.

The NHS Code of Conduct for Managers [*Dept of Health 9th October 2002*] states:

'The Code sets out the core standards of conduct expected of NHS managers. It will serve two purposes:-

- To guide NHS managers and employing health bodies in the work they do and the decisions and choices they have to make;*
- To reassure the public that these important decisions are being made against a background of professional standards and accountability.*

The wider remit now undertaken by health record and information professionals therefore has provided an opportunity to reaffirm the provisions of our Code of Conduct, especially in view of the development of the UK Council for Health Informatics Professions (UK CHIP) of which IHRIM is a founder member

The IHRIM Code of Conduct concentrates on the issues of the responsibilities of the health records and information professional with regard to integrity, honesty and provision of services consistent with the need for quality health care and treatment. It details the professional standards to be employed by those working within the field and will be reviewed regularly to keep it dynamic reflecting the needs of the service.

The NHS Code of Conduct for Managers will also set out the standards for professional conduct of members of the Institute. These have not been devised to be rigid but rather to provide a framework to assist both employers and employees achieve the highest professional standards in health record and information management.

Lorraine Nicholson FHRIM, Chief Executive
