

# WEB 2.0 HONCODE CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES

The purpose of this document is to help you bring your Web 2.0 website or social network into compliance with the 8 principles of the HONcode.

## 1 - AUTHORITY

It must be indicated whether the collaborative platform is moderated or not. If it is moderated, it must be indicated whether the moderation is done a-priori or retrospectively, and the frequency of this moderation.

The real names of the moderators are not mandatory. They may use pseudonyms, and these must be indicated. The qualifications of the moderators must be indicated.

It must be clearly stated that all users are by default considered as non-health professionals and if there are, this must be made explicit. If a health professional gives medical information as a user of the platform, his or her status as a health professional must be clarified.

It must be stated that platform users and moderators must behave at all times with respect and honesty.

It must be mentioned whether moderators can or cannot, ban a user from the platform; and whether users are notified or not before being banned.

## 2- COMPLEMENTARITY

A statement explaining that the information provided on the platform is intended to encourage, and not replace, direct relationships between the patient and health professionals should be included.

The mission of the platform must be indicated.

The minimum age for participation in the platform must be mentioned and respected.

## 3 - CONFIDENTIALITY

The platform must have a privacy policy.

This privacy policy must be accessible from the platform's user policy, for example through a link. If your site is only a community platform, it must comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations. If it uses cookies and/or Google Analytics, this must be mentioned.

It must be indicated that each posted message can be read, used, and quoted by everyone.

It must be mentioned whether or not the user of the platform has the possibility to modify, delete or delete his messages.

## 4 - ATTRIBUTION

It must be indicated that the user must provide the sources (references, links, etc.) of the medical data provided whenever possible.

All comments must be automatically dated.

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## 5 - JUSTIFIABILITY

It must be stated that the user undertakes to provide only information that is true and correct to the best of his knowledge.

## 6 - TRANSPARENCY

A contact email address or form must be easily accessible from the platform, so that users can contact the moderators.

The rules for using the platform must be easily accessible from the home page.

## 7 - FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

A statement clearly outlining all the funding sources of the social platform should be provided.

It must be indicated whether the moderators are volunteers or employees.

## 8 - ADVERTISEMENT POLICY

It must be mentioned whether or not the users of the platform have the right to publish advertising, whether in text or banner form.



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This document is an example of a web 2.0 charter that you can add to your site or social network in order to comply with the HONcode. It shall not be added as such, the parts in grey are to be modified at your convenience, according to your service and its specificities.

The purpose of this service is to [mention the mission of your service] To participate in this service, the user must have a minimum [mention the minimum age of use of your service]. The rules of our service apply to any action performed by users in the sections of it.

## AUTHORITY

Our service is moderated [mention if it is a prior or subsequent moderation, and how often].

Moderators and administrators are [mention if they are voluntary or volunteer], they use the following pseudonyms: [add pseudonyms for moderators and administrators].

Moderators and members of our service are not considered health professionals.

If a health professional gives medical information as a user of the platform, his or her status as a health professional will be clarified.

Moderators can delete all messages that seem inappropriate [mention whether or not they should inform the author].

Moderators [mention whether or not they can] ban a member from the service. In both cases, an explanation will be provided to the user if requested.

## COMPLEMENTARITY

The information on our service is intended to encourage, not replace, direct relationships between patients and healthcare professionals.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

We remind you that each posted message can be read, used, and quoted by everyone.

The user [Indicate whether or not the user has] the ability to delete or edit his comments.

Consult our Privacy Policy on this page: [Link to your privacy policy]

## MESSAGES

Moderators and users must behave at all times with respect and honesty.

By using our service, you agree to disseminate only information that is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.

We invite you to provide the sources (references, links...) of the medical data disseminated whenever possible.

You [Indicate whether or not the user can] display ads in your comments, whether in text or banner form.

All comments are automatically dated.

## FUNDING

Our service is entirely funded through [Add the sources of funding of your service].

[If your blog/forum displays ads]:

All our advertisements are framed and labelled so that they are distinctly separate from our editorial content.

Our content is not influenced by our funding sources in any way.

Our content is in no way influenced by our funding sources and we will not accept advertisements of a sexual or violent nature.

## CONTACT

You can contact the moderators of our service through this email: [Add contact email]

Date of last modification: [Add the date of last modification of your charter]

Our team is at your disposal to assist you in HONcode compliance of your website 2.0 or your social network. Do not hesitate to contact us by email [updateNF@healthonnet.org](mailto:updateNF@healthonnet.org).