



Achieving good medical practice:

# Promoting Professionalism In Medical Students

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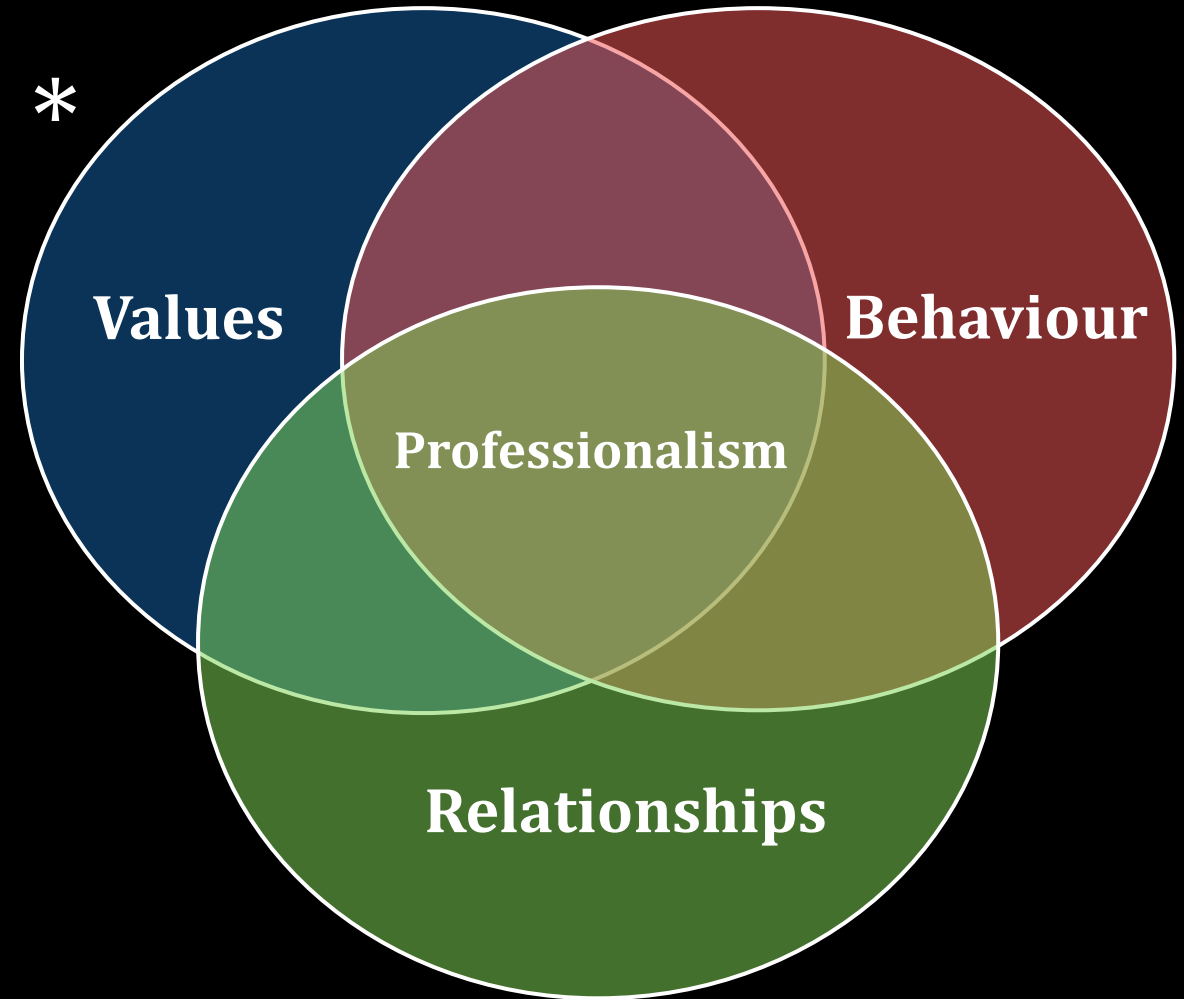
# What we aim to cover

- What is professionalism as part of the medical career?
- Guidance published on professionalism
- What is expected of you as a medical student?
- Scenarios covering key aspects of the guidance
- The importance of adopting professionalism early on as medical students
- Take home messages



# What does professionalism mean to you?

\*  
Adapted from the definition of the doctors in society: Medical Professionalism in a changing world. Royal College of Physicians 2005.





# HCPs views on professionalism

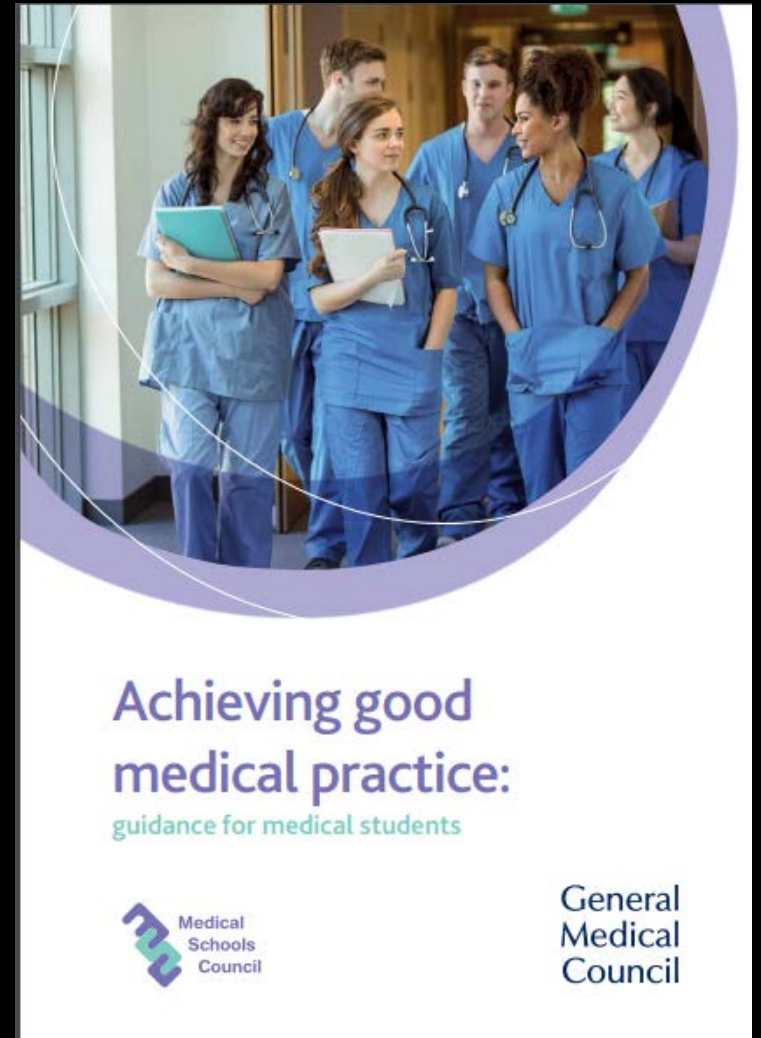


Video 1



# Who sets the standards?

- GMC sets standards for medical students and doctors
- It details the steps that should be taken when professionalism standards are not met
- The guidance highlights what is expected of students inside and outside the medical school setting
- They have created a list of examples of unprofessional behaviour and also state the situations when fitness to practise proceedings ought to take place



Performance

Honesty

Communication

Safety

Trust

Unbias

Confidentiality

Teamwork



# Guidance- key points

- “Persistent inappropriate attitude or behaviour”
- “Failing to demonstrate good medical practice”
- “Drug or alcohol misuse”
- “Cheating or plagiarising”
- “Dishonesty or fraud, including dishonesty outside the professional role”
- “Aggressive, violent or threatening behaviour”
- “Any caution or conviction”
- “Health concerns and insight or management of these concerns”

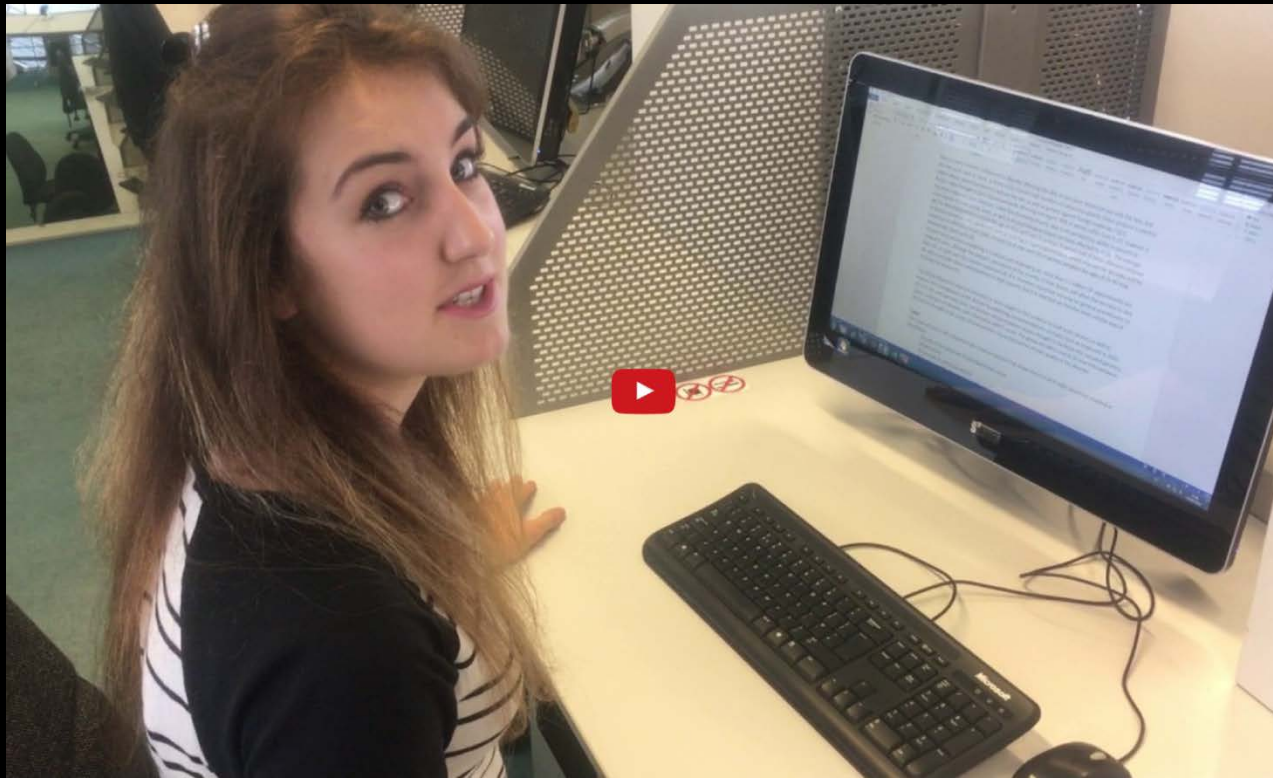




# What is expected of you?

- Medical students are preparing for a professional career
- Even in first year they are in a position of trust – at GP placements they will see and hear things that must stay confidential
- As students, we may even come across things one finds distressing – however, we must maintain professional attitude in front of the patient
- Acting inappropriately outside of medical school may be highlighted by the public – and may give the medical career a bad reputation
- If patients see medical students acting unprofessionally, they will lose trust in not just students, but also doctors and other HCPs
- Can disrupt doctor-patient relationships – lose trust, concordance and willingness to share problems

## Scenario 1-Cheating



*Is this student acting in line with the GMC standards of professionalism as set out in the guidance?*

*What would you do if you were in this situation?*

*What part of the GMC guidance is this relevant to? What does the GMC say about it?*

## Scenario 2–Concern about a friend

*What would you do if you were in this situation?*

*What part of the GMC guidance is this relevant to? What does the GMC say about it?*



Video 3



Video 4

## Scenario 3–Health issue

*Is this student acting in line with the GMC standards of professionalism as set out in the guidance?*

*What would you do if you were in this situation?*

*What part of the GMC guidance is this relevant to? What does the GMC say about it?*

## Scenario 4-Confidentiality

*Is this student acting in line with the GMC standards of professionalism as set out in the guidance?*

*What would you do if you were in this situation?*

*What part of the GMC guidance is this relevant to?  
What does the GMC say about it?*





# Why do we need to maintain professionalism at all times?

- Medical students are in the public eye from day one
- Degree demands students to act as responsible adults and avoid bringing the profession into ill repute- extends into personal life and outside of the clinical environment
- When not in a medical student role we may still meet or be seen by patients or other HCPs
- The way one acts now determines how one will act in the future – professionalism must become a way of life, not something someone turns on/off when working
- Be cautious especially when it involves the use of social media
- Discuss any issues or concerns you have with your medical school



# Key points covered in the session

**Always think of how your actions will impact on your future career – would how you are behaving now be appropriate if you were a doctor?**

**When in doubt, refer to the GMC guidelines set for medical students.**

**Practise professionalism from day one so that it becomes second nature to you.**



# Thank you

*Any Questions?*