



The Code of Ethics of the National Guild of Hypnotists

The National Guild of Hypnotists requires its members to conform to the following ethical principles, and shall hold members accountable for any departure from these principles, which may include revocation of membership.

A. Client Welfare: Members shall make the physical and mental well-being of each client a prime consideration.

B. Client Safety: Members shall not engage in verbal, physical or sexual abuse of any client.

C. Practice Limits: Members shall use hypnotism strictly within the limits of their training and competence and in conformity to the laws of their state.

D. Advertising: Members shall be truthful in their advertising.

E. Credentials: Members shall always be honest about the nature of their titles and degrees when referring to them to the general public, the media, and within the confines of our profession.

F. Referred Practice: Members shall engage in hypnotic work with a client regarding a medical or mental disease only on written referral from an appropriately licensed medical or mental health professional, except when otherwise provided for by state law.

G. Reasonable Practice: Members shall withhold non-referred hypnotic services if a client's behavior, appearance or statements would lead a reasonable person to believe that the client should be evaluated by a licensed health care professional. Members shall provide services to such clients only after evaluation and with the approval of the licensed health care professional.

H. Colleagues: Members shall treat hypnotist colleagues without public defamation.

The Recommended Standards for Hypnotic Practice

The National Guild of Hypnotists advocates the following standards for the professional practice of hypnotism. Except for members living in states where different practice standards are explicitly set by law, we urge our members to voluntarily conform to these standards.

Record Keeping: Members shall establish and maintain proper records necessary to a professional practice.

Scope of Practice: Members shall use hypnotism with clients to motivate them to eliminate negative or unwanted habits, facilitate the learning process, improve memory and concentration, develop self-confidence, eliminate stage fright, improve athletic abilities, and for other social, educational and cultural endeavors of a non-medical nature. Except where state law provides otherwise, members shall use hypnotism with clients regarding a medical or mental disease only on written referral from a licensed medical or mental health professional.

Titles of Practice: Members shall hold their hypnotism services out to the public using only those titles earned and approved by the National Guild of Hypnotists. In states that do not regulate therapeutic practice you may call yourself a Hypnotherapist and what you do hypnotherapy. In states that regulate the therapeutic practice of hypnotism you may be required to use the title of Hypnotist and to call what you do hypnotism. The approved Titles of Practice of the National Guild of Hypnotists are:

- Certified Hypnotist, Consulting Hypnotist or Certified Hypnotherapist, abbreviated CH;
- Certified Instructor (for persons who have passed the Guild Train the Trainer Program), abbreviated CI;
- Certified Master Instructor (for persons who are allowed to teach the Train the Trainer Program); abbreviated CMI;
- Board Certified Hypnotist or Board Certified Hypnotherapist (for persons who have passed the peer reviewed Guild Board Certification Exam), abbreviated BCH;
- Fellow of the National Guild of Hypnotists (for persons who have qualified after a period of time of Board Certification), abbreviated FNGH;
- Diplomat of the National Guild of Hypnotists (for persons who have qualified after a period of time as a Fellow), abbreviated DNGH;
- Other titles protected by state law (for example in the State of New Jersey the title "HypnoCounselor" is permitted).