Preamble:
The Guidelines for Ethical Behavior of Members of the American Society of Cytopathology (ASC) describe the general principles and standards of conduct by which all members of the society practice their profession. These Guidelines also serve to direct the actions of the members in carrying out the goals of the society.

General Principles:
ASC members uphold the highest standards of competence in their work through lifelong learning and maintenance of current knowledge relative to the field of cytopathology.

ASC members promote integrity, honesty and reliability in practice, research and education.

ASC members maintain high standards of practice when performing laboratory testing and evaluating patient samples.

ASC members perform their duties in an accurate, precise, timely and responsible manner.

ASC members treat patients with respect, care and thoughtfulness.

ASC members safeguard patient information and test results as confidential, except as required by law; and preserve the dignity and privacy of others.

ASC members develop cooperative and respectful relationships with colleagues to ensure a high standard of patient care.

ASC members comply with laws and regulations and strive to disclose illegal or improper behavior to the appropriate authorities.

ASC members advocate the delivery of quality laboratory services in a cost-effective manner.

ASC members continue to study, apply, and advance medical laboratory knowledge and skills; and share such with other members of the healthcare community and the public.
ASC members render quality services and care regardless of patients’ age, gender, race, religion, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or political, social, or economic status.

ASC members work in collaboration with partners of cytology and pathology in an effort to maintain professional and ethical standards.

*Adopted in part from the ASCP Board of Certification Guidelines for Ethical Behavior for Certificants.*

*Updated by the Guidelines Review Committee, August 2013*
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