

**AMERICAN NEUROLOGY SOCIETY
DOCMATTER CODE OF CONDUCT**

Established June 2019



COMMUNITY NAME - American Neurology Society Community

The ANS Social Media Committee has created a **Code of Conduct policy** which has been approved by the ANS leadership for the ANS DocMatter Community.

MISSION STATEMENT: The American Neurology Society DocMatter Community is composed of ANS members dedicated to the practice, delivery, and advancement of neurology. Members participate to collaborate on individual cases, build consensus, improve and advance medical skills and knowledge, educate colleagues, and discover and critically evaluate medical data, knowledge, and technologies concerning the field of neurology.

The ANS DocMatter Community Code of Conduct is designed to make the Community efficient, free from bias, clinically relevant, academic, collegial, and useful to the participating members. The ANS and DocMatter will, to the best of their abilities and within the limitations of their resources, enforce the following:

- 1) Discussions must pertain to clinical, research, or healthcare policy topics related to the Mission Statement. Non-relevant discussions (e.g., discussions on politics, religion, etc.) are not allowed.
- 2) Discussions concerning medical industry vendors and products are encouraged, but discussions intended to promote medical products are not allowed. ANS DocMatter Community members discussing medical industry vendors or products are required to disclose potential conflicts of interest that could influence how other members receive and understand their discussions and responses. Disclosures are documented within DocMatter member profiles.
- 3) Members are encouraged to reference, cite, and share medical publications and information learned from medical events and courses. It is the responsibility of ANS DocMatter Community members to ensure they have the proper permissions to upload publications and other content to the ANS DocMatter Community. Discussions intended solely to promote publications, events, or courses are not allowed.
- 4) Medical industry sponsored marketing collateral and events may not be referenced, cited, or shared by consultants or employees paid to produce or participate in such collateral and events.
- 5) Discussions concerning costs or healthcare-related finances are allowed, provided they pertain to patient care or healthcare policy (e.g., health economics and outcomes research or coding for reimbursement from payers). Discussions concerning costs or healthcare-related finances that do not pertain to patient care or healthcare policy (e.g., prices negotiated with medical industry) are not permitted. The ANS DocMatter Community may not be used to attempt to form an agreement to fix prices or otherwise restrain trade in violation of any anti-trust laws or regulations.
- 6) The ANS DocMatter Community may not be used as a marketplace for sale of medical equipment.
- 7) The ANS DocMatter Community may not be used for recruitment purposes. This includes but is not limited to recruitment involving job openings, formal research surveys intended for publication, and upcoming conferences/courses.
- 8) Protected health information (PHI) is not permitted in the ANS DocMatter Community and will be proactively deleted. It is the responsibility of ANS DocMatter Community members to keep the PHI of their respective patients confidential.
- 9) Discussions must be collegial and professional. Discussions and responses that are unlawful, harmful, threatening, abusive, harassing, tortious, excessively violent, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, pornographic, libelous, invasive of another's privacy, hateful, or otherwise objectionable or offensive are not allowed.
- 10) ANS DocMatter Community members agree not to display, distribute, license, perform, publish, reproduce, duplicate, copy, create derivative works from, modify, sell, resell, exploit, transfer or upload for any purpose, any portion of the content from the ANS DocMatter Community.