



PROPOSAL TO RECOGNISE THE DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP AS AN INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF HUMANITY

The European Council of Medical Orders, whose main purpose is to promote the practice of high quality medicine respectful of patients' needs within Europe, is convinced that a high quality DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP is a fundamental component of healthcare, providing support in situations of uncertainty and suffering that disease and its treatment may cause.

The DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP contributes to improve the diagnosis and treatment allowing a higher level of patient centered care and mutual respect.

The DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP may be threatened by political, social, or economic risks and technological and communication changes. This makes it necessary to protect and enhance the fundamental elements of this relationship.

CEOM SUPPORTS AND ADHERES to the initiative promoted by the Forum of the Medical Profession of Spainⁱ and the Portuguese Medical Association to defend and strengthen the DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP by requesting its recognition as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Culture Organization (UNESCO).

This document has been ratified in Madrid, on November 30th, 2018 by its participating organizations.

Dr. José Santos
CEOM President

ⁱ It is made up of the General Medical Council of Spain (CGCOM), the National Conference of Deans of Medical Schools, the National Council of Specialists in Health Sciences, the State Confederation of Medical Unions, the Federation of Spanish Medical Scientific Associations and the State Council of Medical Students.