

**Texas State University Omega Leo Medical Explorer Post 4077,  
San Marcos, Texas: Capitol Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, and  
Lions Clubs International**

**Standard Operating Procedure 200.05 – Expectations of All Medical Explorers Participating in Volunteer and Training Opportunities (Draft 10/4/21)**

Originally prepared by Charles Johnson, Ph.D., Senior Medical Explorer Advisor, Post 4077, July 27, 2021

Last modified by Charles Johnson, Ph.D., Senior Medical Explorer Advisor, Post 4077, October 4, 2021

**Review and Approval within the Medical Explorer Post 4077**

Reviewed and Approved by the Chief Training Officer, Malia Gonzales, **Date**

Reviewed and Approved by the Chief Volunteer Coordinator, Paulina Alvarez, **Date**

Reviewed and Approved by the Vice-President for Operations, Clay Cooper, **Date**

Reviewed and Approved by the Vice-President for Systems, Vaneka Hoskie, **Date**

Reviewed and Approved as Final by the Medical Explorer Presidents' Council, **Date**

**Review and Approval by agencies outside of Medical Explorer Post 4077**

None

**Those with responsibilities in this SOP include:**

1. Senior Medical Explorer Advisor
2. Each Medical Explorer Officer, Assistant, or Liaison.
3. Medical Explorer Chief Volunteer Coordinator
4. Medical Explorer Executive Officer Committee

**Other Standard Operating Procedures Referencing or Impacted by Changes in this SOP:**

SOP 10.01 Reporting No Show Events and Members

SOP 51.21 Reporting No Shows and Reliability Problems for Any CERT Activity

SOP 304.12 Duties of a Medical Explorer Assigned as a Crew Chief

Expectations for Medical Explorers participating in volunteer opportunities are as follows:

**I. Purpose**

1. Medical Explorer Post 4077 has worked to build and increase our reputation among the medical community since our beginnings over thirty years ago. As a group of aspiring future health

professionals we are here to learn and serve. We greatly value the support of those medical and dental professionals who share their time and resources to help in our goal of becoming the best health professionals we can.

2. We realize the doors that have been opened to us because of our efforts to be the best we can be and to demonstrate our eagerness to serve.
3. We value our associations with groups external to the university who share our commitment to service and being the best we can be –Hays County CERT Program, Boy Scouts of America, and Lions Clubs International,

## **II. Our Motto**

1. Medical Explorers are quick to volunteer wherever we may be needed. We understand that we are entering a profession that must maintain a caring and compassionate persona even when our patients may have a condition where they are not as clean as may be expected in “polite society’. The human body can sometimes be dirty and smelly, yet as future health professionals we know that we must overlook the mess and see the humanity that needs our help and compassion. Furthermore, we know that the medical/dental environment can sometimes not be pleasant to work in, but that someone has to do the job if patients are to be served with dignity
2. The Motto of Medical Explorer Post 4077 is **“No job is too small and no job is too yucky.”**
3. Medical Explorers know how to protect ourselves from all sorts of pathogens that can be in the “yucky” stuff we work with.
4. Medical Explorers are humble in their desire to serve and are eager to learn wherever we can. In that regard, we understand that our assignments as volunteers may not all be exciting. We understand that sometimes we must start at the bottom and prove ourselves as worthy of the more glamorous activities in medicine. We know how to learn from the most simple and basic of tasks. By doing the mundane with a good attitude, we know that the excitement will come.

## **III. Our Boy Scout Roots**

1. While our Medical Exploring Post 4077 is not a typical Boy Scout unit, we are part of the Boy Scout family, And therefore, although we are part of the BSA Learning for Life program (and even within this group we are the only unit in the nation designed to serve college age students), the principles and words behind the Scout Law are still important to us.

These words and their significance to future health professionals are:

Trustworthy – Trust is an essential character trait in a health professional. Both patients and colleagues must trust the health professional. People put the lives of precious family and themselves in the hands of those caring for them. They trust you to return them to health and their families. Trust means you are truthful with patients and colleagues. You can be trusted by subordinates to do what you say you will do. Everyone can depend upon you.

Loyal ----- Health professionals must be loyal to their colleagues and the principles driving their actions in patient care. Relationships are important to health professionals;

both relationships with patients and colleagues. You care about the people and institutions around you.

- Helpful ----- Healthcare is a “helping” profession. You become a health professional because of your desire to help others. You volunteer to help others without expecting a reward.
- Friendly ---- Successful health professionals are friendly. Being friendly helps make you part of a team, and today’s healthcare demands a strong team to best care for your patients. You are friendly to all who seek your help, even those very different from you.
- Courteous --- Being courteous goes hand in hand with being friendly. It’s the team that is important in patient care, and you cannot have a well functioning team without everyone being courteous to one another. You are aware of your actions which may offend others and adjust your actions as needed.
- Kind ----- A health professional treats others as they would like to be treated. Intentional harm is not in your character. Forgiveness and understanding is an essential part of how you interact with both patients and colleagues. “To do no harm” in treating your patients is central to your actions.
- Obedient --- Health professionals follow the rules and laws governing your actions. The only exception may be the rare event where you believe you must think outside of the box to best treat a patient. There may be times when traditional practice may not be working and you may have to convince your colleagues of the wisdom of a different path. The human body is a complex organism and may not always respond as we expect it will. It’s at this time that you may have to help create a new rule to follow.
- Cheerful ---- Health professionals are optimists by their nature. They look on the positive side and help others avoid the dark negatives of failure. If you fail, you learn from the failure and prepare for a brighter future. You help others see the bright side of things.
- Thrifty ----- Health professionals are not wasteful. They understand the limits of what they do and the resources required. They strive to do the greatest good with the limited resources they may have.
- Brave ----- Health professionals face difficult and sometimes painful situations more than most other professions. The health professional must persevere when others might give up in despair. Indecision is not in the cards when faced with the life and death decisions health professions find all too common. Health professionals must be secure in those decisions and not be frozen by indecision,
- Clean ----- Health professionals understand cleanliness and its root meaning. They strive to keep their environment clean and pathogen free.

Reverent --- Health professionals understand the importance of spiritual matters and the spiritual nature of their patients. They deal with death and dying far too often, and understand the impact of grief on the health of their patients.

#### **IV. Our Roots in the Lions Clubs International**

1. Lions are the largest service organization in the world. They are men and women, around the world, who are committed to community service. They join together to serve in several areas that overlap our own areas of concern. Our participation in the Lion family as an Omega Leo club is an honor. Our Medical Explorers are the only Omega Leo Club in the Lion family specifically focused on Healthcare. The Global causes of Texas Lions are 1) Diabetes, 2) Pediatric Cancer, 3) Hunger, 4) Vision, 5) Environment, and 6) Disaster Preparation. These are all areas our Medical Explorer Post has focused on. The Motto of Lions Clubs International is “We Serve”.

#### **V. Other Words Important to Medical Explorers**

1. The first word that all Medical Explorers must learn and learn well is “**Reliability**”. All health professionals must be Reliable. Both patients and colleagues must be able to **Rely** upon a health professional.
2. For Medical Explorers, this will show itself as being Reliable in the skills necessary to perform as expected in the many different volunteer opportunities open to you. Medical Explorers carry significant responsibilities which can influence the quality of patient care. They must be able to do the jobs they are asked to do, and do them well.
3. In another sense of the word, Medical Explorers must be reliable in their volunteer assignments. If they commit to a volunteer or training opportunity then they must show up. This applies to the larger organization as well as the individual Medical Explorer. Being a “No Show” for an event is a serious offense and if repeated can be grounds for dismissal from future Medical Explorer activities. There are clearly defined expectations for and rules for the rare times you may need to cancel a volunteer assignment. Be sure you know to whom you should report such cancellation.

#### **V. Disciplinary Actions if Expectations are Not Met**

1. It is the responsibility of all Medical Explorers to carefully guard our reputation for quality and professionalism. Behavior which does not live up to the expectations above is to be corrected as quickly as possible. Each Medical Explorer Office or Liaison is to guard their area of responsibility with a passion.
2. It is the responsibility of each Vice-President to bring problems to the Presidents’ Council of problems in their area of control. The Chief Volunteer Coordinator shares this responsibility with the Vice-President for Operations, but similar reports may be made by the Chief Training Officer and the Vice-President for Systems.
3. Correction should be the action of choice for first offenses, but repeated infractions should be taken under consideration by the Presidents’ Council. Decisions of the Presidents’ Council are to be shared with the Senior Medical Explorer Advisor before being shared with the offending Medical Explorer.

4. Appeals of a decision may be made in writing to the Associate Dean of Science and Engineering.

**Calendar Considerations:**

1. None.