



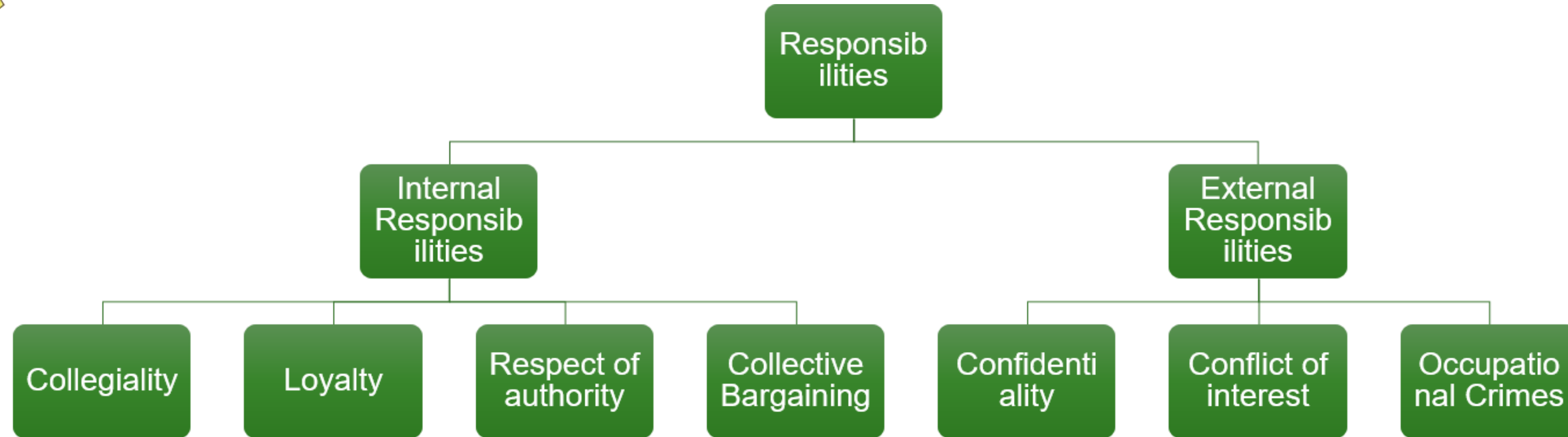
# What We'll Discuss

TOPIC OUTLINE

External Responsibilities  
Conflict of Interest  
Confidentiality



# Responsibilities of Engineers



## Internal Responsibilities:

- Responsibilities of an engineer towards an employer, that the Responsibilities within an organization

## External Responsibilities :

- Responsibilities of an engineer towards outside world, that the Responsibilities outside organization



# External Responsibilities



- Responsibilities of an engineer towards outside world, that the Responsibilities outside organization
- It includes
  - ❑ Confidentiality
  - ❑ Conflict of interest
  - ❑ Occupational crimes



# Conflicts of Interest

- In general conflicts of interest means individuals as two or more desires that all interests cannot be satisfied given circumstance.
- Professional conflicts of interest are situations where professionals have an interest, if pursued , could keep from meeting one of their obligations to their employers
- Example:
  - Employee working in a company and serving as a consultant for a competitor's company



# Types of conflicts of interest



- **Actual conflicts of interests**
- **Potential conflicts of interests**
- **Apparent conflicts of interests**



# Conflict of Interest created by Interest in other companies

- **When one works actually for the competitor or subcontractor as an employee or consultant.**
- **Having partial ownership or substantial stock holdings in the competitor's business.**
- **It may not arise by merely having a spouse working for subcontractor to one's company, but it will arise if one's job also includes granting contracts to that subcontractor**



# Conflicts of Interest created by Insider information

- **Using inside information to set-up a business opportunity for oneself or family or friends.**
- **Buying stock in the company for which one works is not objectionable but it should be based on the same information available to the public.**



# Avoiding Conflicts Of Interests

- Taking guidance from Company Policy
- In the absence of such a policy taking a second opinion from a co-worker or manager. This gives an impression that there no intension on the part of the engineer to hide anything





# Confidentiality or confidential information

- Information considered desirable to be kept secret.
- Any information that the employer or client would like to have kept secret in order to compete effectively against business rivals.
- This information includes how business is run, its products, and suppliers, which directly affects the ability of the company to compete in the market place



# Confidentiality or confidential information



- **Privileged information:**

- Information available only on the basis of special privilege" such as granted to an employee working on a special assignment.

- **Proprietary information:**

- Information that a company owns or is the proprietor of.
- This is primarily used in legal sense.
- Also called Trade Secret. A trade secret can be virtually any type of information that has not become public and which an employer has taken steps to keep secret.



# Confidentiality or confidential information

- Patents
  - Differ from trade secrets.
  - Legally protect specific products from being manufactured and sold by competitors without the express permission of the patent holder.
  - They have the drawback of being public and competitors may easily work around them by creating alternate designs



# Obligation of Confidentiality



- Based on ordinary moral considerations:
- **Respect for autonomy:**
  - Recognizing the legitimate control over private information (individuals or corporations).
  - This control is required to maintain their privacy and protect their self-interest.



# Obligation of Confidentiality



- **Respect for Promise**

- Respecting promises in terms of employment contracts not to divulge certain information considered sensitive by the employer

- **Regard for public well being**

- Only when there is a confidence that the physician will not reveal information, the patient will have the trust to confide in him.
- Similarly only when companies maintain some degree of confidentiality concerning their products, the benefits of competitiveness within a free market are promoted.



# THANK YOU