



Assist. Prof. Dr.Kareem F.Aziz

PhD in Community Health Nursing

LECTURE TWO:

Important principles of ethics in nursing:

1.Justice: A nurse must be fair when distributing healthcare among patients.

2.Do good: A nurse must always act in the patient's best interest , do the good and right things.

3. not harm the patient: A nurse must do no intentional or non-intentional harm to patients.

4.Accountability: A nurse must accept responsibility for their own actions and must accept all personal and professional consequences that occur as a result of their actions.

5.Quality care: A nurse must be faithful to their professional and provide safe and high-quality care in a competency manner.

6.Autonomy: A nurse must accept the individualism of each patient and understand that each individual has the right to their own opinions and decisions. A nurse must understand that each patient has the right to accept or

reject all treatments and the nurse doesn't have the right to force treatments against the patients.

7.Truth: A nurse must be completely truthful to patients and not hide the whole truth even if this may lead to patient distress.

.....

Definition of Nursing Code of Ethics?

According to the American Nurses Association (ANA), the nursing code of ethics is a guide for “carrying out nursing responsibilities in a manner consistent with quality in nursing care and the ethical obligations of the profession.” Ethical values are essential for all healthcare workers, especially nurses

.....

Definition of code of ethics

Nurses, like any other healthcare worker, must follow a limited code of ethics in their practice. The code of ethics for nurses is a set of moral rules that defines a nurse's relationship with patients, staff members, and the profession itself.

.....

principles of the nursing code of ethics. They are,

1. Autonomy
2. Beneficence (doing good)
3. Justice
4. Non-maleficence

Nurses must do their work equality for every one as followings:

1. Each person is respected as a worthy human being, regardless of gender, ethnic background, religion, socioeconomic status or sexual orientation.
2. The nurse establishes relationships of trust with patients and provides nursing care in a nondiscriminatory way.
3. The nurse must give accurate, complete and understandable information to patients or decision-makers to facilitate informed decision-making.
4. The nurse maintains professional, respectful and caring relationships with colleagues.
5. Nurses make decisions in mind when establishing a plan of care, helping the patient or patient's family with patient care decisions, facing conflict of interest decisions or in relationships with other health professionals.
6. Nurses are careful in maintaining appropriate personal relationship boundaries, with patients or with colleagues.
7. Nurses must be protected the rights of privacy and confidentiality for individuals, families and communities. This includes confidentiality of information communicated in the nurse-patient relationship and all patient information.
8. In a situation where patients are asked to participate in research, nurses must make sure that they receive sufficient information to make informed decisions, and that they understand their right to refuse or withdraw from the research without fear of adverse consequences.

9. Nurses are responsible for knowing the code of ethics, relevant laws and regulations, and the employing organization's policies and procedures.

10. Nurses are accountable for the quality of their practice and responsible for assessing their own competencies. When appropriate, they should seek consultation and collaboration from qualified nurses and other health professionals.

11. If in a management or administrative position, they are responsible for providing a safe environment that protects both patient and nurse.

12. Nurses have a duty to themselves and others to achieve integrity and practice, to promote personal health, safety and well-being. They must routinely evaluate their competence and keep up with advances in healthcare and nursing.

13. Nurses have the responsibility to help develop good environment which supports respectful and ethical practice and quality care to patients. They have a duty to try free from violation of patients' rights and that require nurses to apply standards of practice .

14. Nurses must participate in expanding the knowledge base of nursing practice through direct or indirect participation in research and other ways of advancing the profession. They can contribute by developing, maintaining and implementing professional practice standards and participate in nursing and health policy development.

15. Nurses can lead or participate in institutional policy setting and join in community or national efforts to support nurses' professionalism and ethical

integrity and help old age , mentally ill, prisoners, refugees, women, children and socially stigmatized groups

17.The professional organizations should be actively involved in the political process to protect public health and the profession of nursing.

.....

References:

1.<https://www.bestnursingdegree.com/nursing/articles/nursing-code-of-ethics/>

accessed in 21/12/2020

2.Trobec I, Starcic AI. Developing nursing ethical competences online versus in the traditional classroom. Nurs Ethics. 2015 May;22(3):352-66. - [PubMed](#)

3.Epstein B, Turner M. The Nursing Code of Ethics: Its Value, Its History. Online J Issues Nurs. 2015 May 31;20(2):4. – [PubMed](#)

4.Morrell TJ, Konda S, Grant-Kels JM. Response to a letter to the editor regarding "The ethical issue of cherry picking patients". J Am Acad Dermatol. 2019 May;80(5):e127. - [PubMed](#)

5.Suen KK. Ethical implications of population ageing in the intensive care unit. Ir J Med Sci. 2019 May;188(2):699-702. - [PubMed](#)