



**Lecture 5 Assist. Prof. Dr.Kareem F.Aziz**

**PhD in Community Health Nursing**

### **Principles of the Nursing Code of Ethics**

Revised in 2015 to include 9 provisions, the ANA's nursing code of ethics now includes interpretative statements that can provide more specific guidance for nursing practice.

**Currently, the nurse's code of ethics contains 9 main provisions:**

1. The nurse practices with kindness and respect for the dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.
2. The nurse's primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.
3. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.
4. The nurse has authority, accountability, and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action fixed with the obligation to provide optimal patient care.

5. The nurse has the same duties to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.
6. The nurse, through individual and collective effort, establishes, maintains, and improves the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment that are conducive to safe, quality health care.
7. The nurse, in all roles and settings, advances the profession through research and scholarly, professional standards development, and the generation of both nursing and health policy.
8. The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.
9. The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organization, must talk clearly about nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession, and integrate principles of social justice into nursing and health policy.

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**Nursing Leaders and the American Nurses Association (ANA) Promoting Ethics in nursing as:**

1. Nurses must be committed to helping patients and seeking out the best possible healthcare outcomes for them.
2. Nonmaleficence not harm patients: Nurses must make sure they are not purposely harming patients in their care. While treatment or procedure can have negative impacts on patients, nurses should not cause intentional harm.
3. Fidelity or perfect in working. Nurses should be faithful to their promises and responsibility to provide high-quality and safe care.

4. Accountability Nurses must accept personal and professional consequences for their actions.

10. **Veracity or truth** Truthfulness is a cornerstone in nursing and something patients depend on. Patients should be able to depend on nurses for the truth even if the information is distressing.

11. Patient autonomy // Patients are entitled to know about all of their treatment options and have the right to make decisions about their healthcare based on their personal beliefs. Patients have the right to refuse treatment or medication.

12. If a patient does not have the capacity to understand the information, the patient's healthcare providers should be consulted.

13. In addition to understanding components of ethical decision-making, nurse leaders must be able to help staff nurses handle the implications that arise from poor ethical choices. As moral stress or job satisfaction.

#### **References//**

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2. Daugherty Biddison EL, Faden R, Gwon HS, et al. Too many patients...A framework to guide statewide allocation of scarce mechanical ventilation during disasters. *Chest*. 2019;155(4):848-54.