CODE OF ETHICS

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INTRODUCTION

According to the American Nurses Association, The Nursing code of ethic is a guide for "carrying out nursing responsibilities in a manner consistent with quality in Nursing care and the ethics obligation of the profession".

DEFINITION

It is the study of philosophical ideals of right or wrong behavior, it means a low or principal that govern the right conductor behaviors.

PURPOSE OF CODE OF ETHICS

- Standards for the behavior of Nurses & provide general guideline for nursing action.
- Help to distinguish between right &wrong .
- Protect the right of individual

PRINCIPLES

- AUTONOMY
- BENEFICENCE
- JUSTICE
- NON-MALIFECENCE
- FIDELITY
- VERACITY
- CONFIDENTIALITY
- ACCOUNTABILITY

AUTONOMY

- Autonomy is recognizing each individual patient's right to self-determination and decision-making.
- This include all potential risks, benefits, and complications to make well-informed decisions.

BENEFICENCE

- Beneficence is acting for the good and welfare of others and including such attributes as kindness and charity.
- The American Nurses Association define this as "action guided by compassion.

JUSTICE

- Justice is that there should be an element of fairness in all medical and nursing decisions and care.
- Nurses must care for all patient with the same level of fairness despite the individual 's financial ability, race, religion, gender.

NON-MALEFICENCE

- Non-maleficence is to do no harm. This is the most well-know of the main principal of nursing ethics.
- More specifically, it is selecting intervention and care that will cause the least amount of harm to achieve a beneficial outcome.

ACCOUNTABILITY

 Accountability is about maintaining competency and safeguarding quality patient care outcomes and standards of the profession, while being answerable to those who are affected by one's nursing or midwifery practice.

FIDELITY

- Fidelity in nursing ethics is when a nurse remains true to the values, principles, and standards.
- This means not engaging in any unethical behavior and following guideline set by health care employers.

VERACITY

- Veracity is the principle of telling the truth and is related to the principle of autonomy.
- It requires that health care providers be honest in their interaction with patients.

USES

- Acknowledge the rightful place of individual in health care delivery system.
- Constitutes towards empowerment of individual to becomes responsibility for their health &wellbeing.
- Inform the individual, family, community &others professionals about expectation of nurses.

ETHICAL DILEMMA

An ethical Dilemma is a complex situation that often involve a mental conflict between two things that is moral and imperatives.

ICN CODE OF ETHICS

The ICN code of ethics for Nurses has four elements that outline the standards of ethical conduct.

- Nurses and people
- 2. Nurses and practice
- 3. Nurses and the profession
- 4. Nurses and co-workers

NURSES AND PEOPLE

- The nurse's primary professional responsibility is to people requiring nursing care
- In providing care, the nurse promotes an environment in which the human right, values, customs and spiritual beliefs of the individual.

NURSES AND PRACTICE

- The nurses carries personal responsibility and accountability for nursing practice, and for maintaining competence by continual learning.
- The nurse maintains a standard of personal health such that the ability to provide care.

NURSES AND THE PROFESSION

- The Nurse assume the major role in determining and implementing acceptable standards of clinical nursing, practice, management, research and education.
- The Nurse is active in developing a core of research –based professional knowledge.

NURSES AND CO-WORKERS

- The Nurse sustains a co-operative relationship with co-worker in nursing and other fields.
- The nurses takes appropriate action to safeguard individual, families and communities when their health is endangered by co-worker or any other person.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR NURSES IN INDIA.

- The nurse respects the uniqueness of Individual in provision of care.
- The nurse respects the right of individual as patient in care and help in making informed choices.
- The nurse respect individual right to privacy, maintains confidentiality.

- Nurses maintains competence in order to render quality nursing care.
- The nurse is obliged to work harmoniously with member of the health team.

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR NURSES

RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Appreciates sense of self worth and nurtures it.
- Maintains standards of personal conduct
- reflecting credit upon the profession.
- Carries out responsibilities within the framework of the professional boundaries.
- Is accountable for maintaining practice standards set by Indian Nursing Council.

. RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- Is accountable for own decisions and actions.
- Is compassionate
- Is responsible for continuous improvement of current practices.
- Provides adequate information to individuals that allow then informed choices.
- Practices healthful behaviors.

2. NURSING PRACTICE

- Provides care in accordance with set standards of practice.
- Respect individuals and families in the context of traditional and cultural practices promoting healthy practices and discouraging harmful practices.
- Treat all individuals and families with human dignity in providing physical, psychological, emotional, social and spiritual aspects of care.

COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP

- Establish and maintains effective interpersonal relationships with individuals, families and communities.
- Upholds the dignity of team members and maintains effective interpersonal relationship with them.
- Appreciates and nurtures professional role of team members.

VALUING HUMAN BEING

- Takes appropriate action to protect
- individuals' from harmful unethical practice.
- Consider relevant facts while taking conscience decisions in the best interest of individuals
- Encourages and supports individuals in their right to speak for themselves on issues affecting their health and welfare.
- Respects and supports choices made by individuals.

MANAGEMENT

- Ensures appropriate allocation and utilization of available resources.
- Participates in supervision and education of students and other formal care providers
- Uses judgment in relation to individual competence while accepting and delegating responsibility.
- Facilitates conductive work culture in order to achieve institutional objective.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT

- Ensures the protection of the human rights while pursuing the advancement of knowledge.
- Contributes to the development of nursing practice.
- Participates in determining for upholding own knowledge and competencies.
- Contributes to care professional knowledge by conducting and participating in research.

