PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN NURSING

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PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF CARE

- Skills & learning of profession
- Provide direction for nursing practice
- Evaluate quality of care
- Legal guidelines
- Protect the public
- Classified into Internal and External standards

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COMPETENT PERFORMANCE

- Competence
- Competency
- Legal safeguard
- Nurse must:
  - Adhere to legal boundaries & policies/procedures
  - Use and apply the Nursing Process

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BRN: Definition of Competent Nursing Care

- Title 16 Section 1443.5
  - www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/regulations/npr-b-53.pdf
- "Shall be considered to be competent when he/she consistently demonstrates ability to transfer scientific knowledge from social, biological & physical sciences in applying the nursing process". (pg. 1 of document)

See handout from the BRN Comparing Competence to NPA and Ca Code of Regs

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Institutional Standards

- Provide professional standards
  - Define policies & procedures
- Health care facilities
  - Hospitals
  - Clinical
  - Extended nursing facilities
- Joint Commission
  - See Role Expectations of the Nursing Student lecture for slide on Joint Commission (levels of expectations)

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Community Standards

- Acceptable behavior within a specific community
- In hospital
- In nursing schools

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ANA PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OF CARE: 16 STANDARDS

Not in textbook

1. Assessment
2. Diagnosis
3. Outcome Identification
4. Planning
5. Implementation
6. Evaluation
7. Ethics
8. Education
9. Evidence-Based Practice & Research
10. Quality of Practice
11. Communication
12. Leadership
13. Collaboration
14. Professional Practice Evaluation
15. Resource Utilization
16. Environmental Health

1-6 are Standards of Practice
7-16 are Standards of Professional Performance

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NURSE PRACTICE ACT (NPA)

- Defines and describes
- Regulates and governs
- Each state has own NPA
- Protect the public

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NURSE PRACTICE ACT: STUDENT NURSE

- Article 2. Scope of Regulation 2729 states:
  - Nursing services may be rendered by a student when these services are incidental to the course of study of one of the following:
    (a) A student enrolled in a board-approved prelicensure program or school of nursing.
    (b) A nurse licensed in another state or country taking a board-approved continuing education course or a postlicensure course

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Entry into Practice

All have to pass the NCLEX-RN

- Various ways to be an RN
  - Diploma
    - 1860 up to mid 1960s,3-year program, no degree, hospital based, very few left, immediate immersion into patient care
  - Associates degree
    - Began in 1950, take place in community colleges, ADN degree, focus on research and controlled experimentation
  - Baccalaureate programs
    - Began in 1919, used to be 5 years (4 now), in universities
  - Accelerated BSN to MSN
    - BA in another field can enter the MSN program

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Accreditation for Schools of Nursing

- Accredited programs meet standard requirements that are evaluated periodically through written self-studies and on-site visitation by peer examiners (Berman, p. 9).
- We are accredited by ACCJC and WASC which are an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education

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Role of the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN)

- State governmental agency established by law to protect the public by regulating the practice of registered nurses (BRN website)
- Responsible for implementation and enforcement of the Nursing Practice Act: laws related to nursing education, licensure, practice, and discipline (BRN website)

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LICENSURE

- What is licensure?
- Primary objective of BRN licensure:
  - "Ensure protection by determining that individuals possess the knowledge and qualifications necessary to competently and safely practice registered nursing" (BRN Website)
- Credentialing

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DISCIPLINARY ISSUES

- Depends on offense, rehab evidence, safe practice, mitigating factor, past hx
- Unprofessional Conduct
  - Incompetence
  - Gross negligence
  - Practicing without a license
  - Falsification of client's records
  - Illegally obtaining, using or possessing controlled substances
  - Having a personal relationship with a client (especially a vulnerable client)

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COLLABORATIVE ROLE

- *Collaborative Practice* defined as "the interactions between nurse and physician that enable the knowledge and skills of both professions to synergistically influence the patient care provided" (Weiss & Davis, 1985)
- "The nurse collaborates with the patient, family, and other health care providers in providing patient care" (ANA)

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Provider of Care

- To assist client physically & psychologically while preserving the client's dignity
- We also are:
  - Communicator
  - Teacher
  - Client Advocate
  - Counselor
  - Change Agent
  - Leader
  - Manager or Case Manager
  - Researcher

Provide safe nursing care to individuals, families, groups & communities

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Roles for Being Provider of Care

- Some expanded career roles for nurses
  - NP
  - CNS
  - Nurse Anesthetist
  - Midwife
  - Researcher
  - Administrator
  - Educator
  - Entrepreneur
  - Forensic

See Berman pg. 16, Box 1-2

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Student

- Not considered hospital employees
- Do not work "under" instructor's license
  - You are held legally liable for your own actions
- BRN requires a reporting of prior criminal history (even if happened as youth) when applying for licensure
  - Past felonies & misdemeanors may be denied licensure even if you graduate from a nursing school

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MANAGER & COORDINATOR OF CLIENT CARE

- Coordinate care
  - Ensure plans completed and evaluate them
- Direct care or delegate

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MEMBER OF DISCIPLINE

- Is not "punishment" inflicted, but is a branch of knowledge, especially one studied in higher education
- Settings for nursing:
  - Hospitals
  - Community agencies (Public Health)
  - Home care
  - Clinics
  - Long-term facilities

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CLIENT ADVOCATE

- "One who expresses and defends the cause of another" (Berman, 10th ed)
- Question EVERYTHING when it comes to your patient!!
  - Ask yourself WHY? Why this order? Why this med? Why that diet? Why that IVF? Why must I do this for the pt? etc…..
- Protect your Patient – Be Safe – Be Prepared
  - As a student – know your Ps
    - **P**roper **P**rior **P**lanning **P**revents **P**oor **P**erformance

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NURSING CODE OF ETHICS

- Formal statement of our ideals and values
- Principles shared by nurses, reflects our moral judgments & serve as a standard for our actions
- We have an *International Council of Nurses Code of Ethics* (see Berman pg 78 Box 5-3)
- Know the 4 fundamental responsibilities for nurses

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ANA CODE OF ETHICS

- ANA *Code of Ethics for Nurses* (adopted in 1950)
- A 76 page document that has 9 provisions:
  1. Compassion & respect
  2. Commitment
  3. Advocacy
  4. Accountability
  5. Promote health & safety
  6. Quality health care
  7. Evidence based care
  8. Collaborates
  9. Maintain integrity of profession

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MORAL PRINCIPLES

- Autonomy
  - Client's right to make own decisions
- Nonmaleficence
  - Do no harm
- Beneficience
  - Implement actions that benefit client
- Justice
  - Be fair
- Fidelity
  - Faithful to agreements & promises
- Veracity
  - Telling the truth

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LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- Nurses need to distinguish between morality and law
  - An action can be legal but morality can be questionable
    - i.e., Full Resuscitation of an 89 year old frail female
- Nurses are accountable for their professional judgments and actions
  - Ensure decisions/actions are consistent with current legal principles
  - Protect self from liability

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PUBLIC OPINION

- According to 12/2016 Gallup Poll
  - 84% of population rate nurses as highly honest and have ethical standards
  - 65% doctors
  - 59% dentists
  - 58% police officers
  - 47% college teachers
  - 44% clergy
  - 24% bankers
  - 18% lawyers
  - 9% car salespeople
  - 8% congress (lowest rated)

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LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER

- We have an Ethics Resource Committee
- Goal
  - To assist health care providers, clients, & families upon request to deal with difficulty ethical decisions
  - Consists of physicians, nurses, clergy, and 2 community members

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BE AWARE OF YOUR FEELINGS IN CERTAIN TOPICS

- Abortion
- Organ Transplant
- End of Life Issues
- Active Euthanasia
  - Deliberately cause to die
- Passive Euthanasia
  - Withdrawing/holding life sustaining therapy
- What will you say if your patient asks "What would you do?"

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- Thank you!!!

- Any Questions?

You can email me if you later have any questions