

# **Health Education**

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## **Ethical and Legal Principles**

**Second Semester 2023-2024**

# Intended Learning Outcomes

**At the end of this discussion, you will be able to:**

- Differentiate between the ethical principles
- Identify the application of the ethical principles in health education process.
- Apply ethical issues in creating positive change of behaviors



# Ethical Principles

- It means the right to self-determination
- The client has the right to make choices independently.
- The client should be informed in writing of the right to refuse medical and surgical care at the time of admission or prior to the initiation of care or treatment.



# Ethical Principles



- This must appear in the client's record, which is the legal document validating that such instruction took place.
- Clients should be fully informed and the decisions are deliberate with careful consideration of consequences.

- There are four elements for making up the notion of informed consent (It is such a vital aspect of client education):

1. *Competence*, which refers to the capacity of the client to make a reasonable decision.
2. *Disclosure of information*, which requires that sufficient information regarding risks and alternative treatments, be provided to the client to enable him or her to make a rational decision

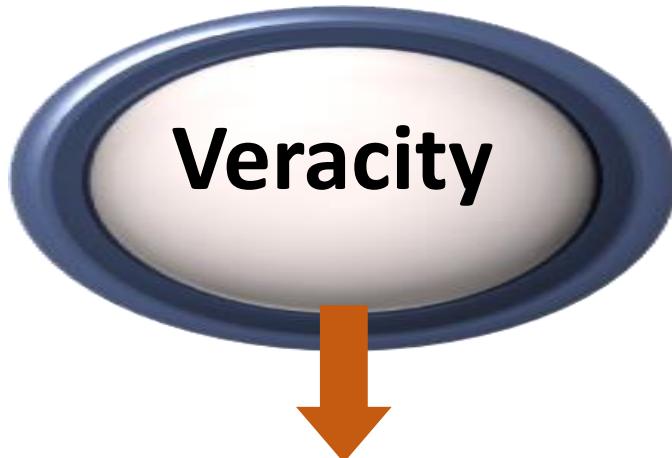
**3. *Comprehension*, which speaks to the client's ability to understand or to grasp intellectually the information being provided.**

**4. *Voluntariness*, which indicates that the client has made a decision without force from others.**

# Veracity



- **Telling the truth and be truthful.**
- **It is closely linked with informed decision making and informed consent. clients deserve to be given accurate information in a timely manner.**
- **An individual's right to make decisions about invasive medical procedures requires instruction, including the truth regarding risks or benefits involved in these procedures.**



- **A battery is the failure or omit to properly instruct the client relative to invasive procedures.**
- **Truth-telling treats clients as equals, expands the opportunity for greater client involvement, and provides needed information for decisions**



Beneficence



**It means “doing good or benefiting others”.**

**The criteria of doing good is the adherence to critical tasks and duties contained in job description; in policies, procedures, and protocols; and in standards and code of ethical behavior.**

## Nonmaleficence



- **It is the principles of “do not harm”.**
- **Avoiding or preventing harm intentionally or unintentionally to others .**
- **It may be:**
  - **Negligence: Unreasonable risk or harm.**
  - **Malpractice: Services does not involve a highly skilled and technical Performance.**



**Confidentiality**

**The nurse may not disclose information acquired in a professional capacity from the client unless the client has been a victim or subject of legal proceeding in which the nurse is a witness.**

# Justice



- It means fairness and equal distribution of service.  
Treating people fairly (treating every person equally regardless of gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, disease, or social standing).

The client has the right to proper instruction regarding risks and benefits of invasive medical procedures.



# Respect

**treating people as unique, equal, and responsible moral agents.**

- **Show respect for others**
- **protect dignity.**
- **Treat others with caring and compassion.**
- **Pursue excellence.**
- **Accept accountability.**

# **Fidelity**

- keeping promises. People deserve to count on commitments being met.
- It influences the quality of the nurse's relationship with clients, who then are more likely share information, leading to improved decisions.

# Communication

- The teacher should use several techniques that will help keep the channel of communication open
- Avoid frivolous conversation and joking
- Show respect when speaking or listening
- Ask questions that can't be answered with yes or no
- Restate what you thought you heard the patient say
- Use clarifying phrases

# **Liability**

**(Something for which one is legally obligated)**

**A. Discrimination: Use consistent, fair practices for all learners**

**B. Harassment: Use consistent, fair practices for all learners**

# Liability

**C. Sexual Harassment:** Avoid actions or suggestive statements, because they may be misinterpreted and offensive

**D. Learner or Client Injury:** It may results from:  
Clinical experience accidents, Improper or inadequate supervision, Inadequate, malfunctioning or faulty equipment, and Improper instruction