

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

FINAL EXAMINATION MAY 2005

PROGRAMME: CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

COURSE : NUR 314

TITLE OF PAPER : NURSING ETHOS AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN
COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

DURATION : 2 HOURS

MARKS: : 60

INSTRUCTIONS

1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS
2. WRITE EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

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INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1: MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS.

Choose the correct answer and indicate your response by writing the letter preceding the correct answer next to the appropriate question number e.g. 25= r (1 mark for each).

1. Siphio is taken to the emergency department (ED) by the police. He is very demanding and pacing the floor. The ED nurse says to Siphio "If you don't calm down and be quiet, I am going to put you in restraints. This type of treatment could implicate the nurse for which of the following charges?
 - a. Battery
 - b. False imprisonment
 - c. Defamation of character
 - d. Assault

2. Siphio becomes assaultive in the emergency department, kicking at the nurses and kicking the police who are trying to control him. The doctor orders a STA injection of chlorpromazine to calm Siphio down. Siphio shouts "Get away from me with that needle. I will sue you". Under which of the following conditions are the staff protected from legal action?
 - a. Siphio is considered "gravely disabled" and in need of help
 - b. This is an emergency situation and Siphio is a danger to self or others
 - c. This type of situation is covered by common law
 - d. This type of situation is covered by civil law

3. The nurse states, "I know Siphio does not want to be put into restraints but we must do so for the protection of staff and the other clients". This is an example of which ethical principle?
 - a. Utilitarianism
 - b. Kantianism
 - c. Christian ethics
 - d. Natural law ethics

4. When information is presented so that the patient can make informed decisions, the health care provider's teaching is based on the principle of:
 - a. Justice
 - b. Respect
 - c. Veracity
 - d. Nonmaleficence

5. The major conceptual foundation of Deontology, a system of ethical thought, is that people have specific duty to:
- Do what is right for the individual
 - Bend the rules when it will help the patient
 - Maximize good and minimize harm within society
 - Consider the consequences of decisions in relation to others
6. An individual is reflecting ethical thoughts from the school of Utilitarianism when making the statement:
- "Does the decisions adhere to the rules of right and wrong"
 - "The sanctity of life takes precedence over the quality of life"
 - "What is good or right must triumph over what is bad and wrong"
 - Will the consequences of this decision cause a burden to society?
7. When assisting patients to make decisions that involve ethical dilemmas, nurses must first:
- Refrain from imposing their values on patients
 - Clarify their own values in relation to the moral issues
 - Understand ethical theories and principles before making decisions
 - Elicit the thoughts and feelings of the patient and significant others
8. The strongest motivating ethical principle in the provision of nursing care is:
- Utility
 - Autonomy
 - Beneficence
 - Nonmaleficence
9. The Swaziland Code of Conduct for Nurses (1991) directs nurses to provide patients care that is:
- Curative
 - Autonomous
 - Utilitarian
 - nonjudgmental

10. When assessing if a procedural risk to a mother or fetus is justified, the ethical principle underlying the dilemma is:
- non maleficence
 - informed consent
 - self determination
 - respect for individuals
11. An issue that causes the greatest ethical dilemma and moral arguments is:
- Abortion
 - Adoption
 - Surrogacy
 - Artificial insemination
12. The first step when using any ethical decision-making model in patient care is:
- Exploring patient's wishes
 - Identifying possible actions
 - Calculating potential outcomes
 - Determining the nature of the problem
13. In ethics, the phenomenon known as "the slippery slope" means that:
- Adherence to ethical principles can gradually erode
 - Rules change depending on the patient's socioeconomic status
 - Moral values "slip and slide" because they are dynamic rather than static
 - The decision making continuum begins with paternalism and ends with autonomy
14. From the Deontological point of view, parental decision to withhold neonatal intensive care for their very low –birth weight infant would violate the principle of:
- Utility
 - Justice
 - Autonomy
 - Macro-allocation
15. Parents of a fetus with multiple anomalies decide to have an abortion because "our child would have no quality of life and would impact negatively on what we could do for our other children". The parents' decision reflects the ethical concept of:
- Utilitarianism
 - Deontology
 - Christian ethics
 - Egotism

16. **Micro-allocation of resources is an ethical concept that is concerned with the**
- a. **Family**
 - b. **Society**
 - c. **Hospital**
 - d. **Individual**
17. **Which of the following describes the ethical principle of beneficence?**
- a. **The right of the competent person to choose a personal plan of life and action**
 - b. **The obligation of the health care provider to help people in need**
 - c. **The duty of health care providers to do no harm**
 - d. **The responsibility of the health care providers to treat all in the same fair manner.**
18. **Which of the following describes the ethical principle of utilitarianism?**
- a. **Health care resources are allocated so that the best is done for the greatest number of people**
 - b. **The health care provide must be truthful and avoid deception**
 - c. **The health care provider has an obligation to be faithful to commitments made to self and others**
 - d. **The responsibility of the health care provider is to treat all people in the same fair manner**
19. **Which of the following describes the ethical principle of non-maleficence?**
- a. **The right of the competent patient to choose a personal plan of life or action**
 - b. **The obligation of the health care provider to help people in need**
 - c. **The duty of the health care provider to do no harm**
 - d. **The responsibility of the health care provider to treat all in the same fair manner.**
20. **In psychiatry, the treatment method that controls behaviour by changing emotions and suppressing one's personality is**
- a. **Psychotherapy**
 - b. **Psychosurgery**
 - c. **Psychopharmacology**
 - d. **Electroconvulsive therapy**

QUESTION 2

You are a newly employed community mental health nurse assigned to a unit at the Psychiatric centre. When getting to know the patients you take the charts to help identify them. At the end of this exercise you realize that one patient was left out because the chart was not there. You check all over but cannot locate the patient's chart. You therefore do not know what her condition was on admission and you do not know what medication she is receiving even though she tells you that nurses do give her "tablets" twice a day which she complains makes her too drowsy. **What ethical and legal issues are inherent in this scenario?.....(20)**

QUESTION 3

Because of an employee's failure to meet the demands for payment of overtime allowance, the negotiating team of the Nursing organization resolves that all nurses working for that employer should embark on an indefinite strike. No arrangements are made for backup services to assist patients admitted at the facilities run by the employer and for patients requiring outpatient care. Volunteer workers are unable to assist patients because they find storerooms locked and keys not in the possession of the administration. A number of patients die because of lack of care. **What ethical issues are at play in this situation?.....(20)**