

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER DECEMBER 2014**

**TITLE : ETHOS AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN COMMUNITY  
MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**

**COURSE : NUR 314**

**DURATION : TWO (2) HOURS**

**MARKS : 75**

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**
  - 2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS**
  - 3. NO PAPER SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO NOR OUT  
OF THE EXAMINATION ROOM**
  - 4. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF  
PAPER**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY  
THE INVIGILATOR**

**Question 1: Multiple Choice Questions**

For the following questions, select the one option that provides the best answer/response to the question asked or statement made. Indicate the chosen option by writing the corresponding alphabet next to the question number (e.g. 43 = r). 1 mark per question.

1. Which of the following is not a way to enhance autonomy?
  - a) Focus first on general goals not technical options.
  - b) Disagreements should initiate a process of mutual exchange.
  - c) The nurse makes the final decision on nursing management.
  - d) Recommendations must consider both clinical facts and personal experiences.
  
2. Clients receiving psychiatric care have a right to determine their own treatment plan. This right is based on the ethical principle of
  - a) Informed consent.
  - b) Beneficence.
  - c) Non-maleficence.
  - d) Autonomy.
  
3. The statement "Does the decision adhere to the rules of right and wrong?" is a reflection of
  - a) Deontology.
  - b) Utilitarianism.
  - c) Egoism.
  - d) Christian approach.
  
4. Fidelity is best described by
  - a) The health care provider must be truthful .
  - b) the responsibility of the health care provider is to treat all people in the same fair manner.
  - c) Health care resources must be allocated so that the best is done for a greater number of people.
  - d) The health care provider has an obligation to be faithful to commitments made to others and avoid deception.
  
5. Informed consent may be given by
  - a) a 13-year old mother for the circumcision of her newborn son
  - b) a 21-year old after 3 glasses of wine and a 6 pack of beer
  - c) a 54-year old mentally challenged female client
  - d) a nurse taking care of a client in an emergency situation
  
6. Non-maleficence means
  - a) provide positive actions to help others
  - b) first do no harm
  - c) tell the truth
  - d) protection of privacy
  
7. In psychiatry, the treatment method that controls behaviour by inculcating new values and attitudes is
  - a) Electroconvulsive therapy.
  - b) Psychopharmacology.

- c) Psychotherapy.
  - d) Psychosurgery.
8. An individual is reflecting ethical thoughts from the school of Utilitarianism when making the statement
- a) "Does the decision adhere to the rules of right and wrong?"
  - b) "The sanctity of life takes precedence over the quality of life."
  - c) "What is good or right must triumph over what is bad or wrong."
  - d) "Will the consequences of this decision cause a burden to society."
9. The word most closely associated with the ethic of caring is
- a) Veracity.
  - b) Empathy.
  - c) Dilemma.
  - d) Negotiation.
10. The condition of limited access to a person is
- a) Confidentiality.
  - b) Secrecy.
  - c) Privacy.
  - d) Security.
11. The nurse in a unit is caring for several clients. To distribute nursing care the nurse used the principle of triage due to limited resources. The nurse is promoting which ethical principle
- a) Fidelity.
  - b) Justice.
  - c) Veracity.
  - d) Confidentiality.
12. The strongest motivating ethical principle in the provision of nursing care is
- a) Autonomy.
  - b) Utility.
  - c) Beneficence.
  - d) Non-maleficence.
13. The first step when using an ethical decision-making model in patient care is
- a) Identifying possible actions.
  - b) Determining the nature of the problem.
  - c) Exploring patient wishes.
  - d) Calculating potential outcomes.
14. Micro-allocation of resources is an ethical concept that is concerned with the
- a) Family
  - b) Individual
  - c) Society
  - d) Hospital

15. In psychiatry, the treatment method that controls behaviour by changing emotions and suppressing one's personality is
- Electro-convulsive therapy.
  - Psychosurgery.
  - Psychotherapy.
  - Psychopharmacology.
16. Parents of a foetus 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.
17. The Swaziland Code of Conduct for Professional nurses directs nurses to provide patient care that is
- Non-judgemental.
  - Autonomous.
  - Utilitarian.
  - Curative.
18. The major conceptual foundation of deontology, a system of ethical thought, is that people have a specific duty to
- Consider the consequences of decisions in relation to others.
  - Maximize good and minimize harm within society.
  - Do what is right for the individual.
  - Bend rules when it will help the patient.
19. When information is presented so that the patient can make an informed decision, the health care provider's teaching is based on the principle of
- Justice.
  - Autonomy.
  - Veracity.
  - Non-maleficence.
20. Mvemve is taken to the emergency room by the police. He is very demanding and pacing the floor. The ER nurse says to Mvemve "If you do not 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?
- Battery.
  - Assault.
  - Defamation of character.
  - False imprisonment.
21. Mvemve becomes assaultive in the ER. The doctor orders a *STAT* injection of chlorpromazine to calm Mvemve down. Mvemve 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?
- Mvemve is considered "gravely disabled" and in need of help.
  - This is an emergency situation and Mvemve is a danger to self and others.

- c) This type of situation is covered by civil law.
  - d) This type of situation is covered by common law.
22. The nurse states, "I know Sipho does not want to be put into restraints but we must do so for the protection of staff and other clients". This is an example of which ethical philosophy?
- a) Utilism.
  - b) Egoism.
  - c) Deontology.
  - d) Altruism.
23. A factor that would render consent to treatment to be considered invalid is
- a) The person giving consent feels powerless, vulnerable and coerced.
  - b) The person giving consent is competent.
  - c) The consent given is voluntary.
  - d) The person giving the consent comprehends information given.
24. A situation that would render consent presumed or implied is least likely to include
- a) A patient is admitted to the hospital ward.
  - b) Emergency situation.
  - c) When the patient requiring treatment is incompetent.
  - d) When the patient requiring treatment is unconscious.
25. You are one of the vaccinators in a Measles-Rubella campaign. One mother hesitates since she verbalizes that it would hurt her son. As a well-versed nurse about ethical considerations you explain to the mother that it may cause a discomfort but it will protect her son from acquiring the said diseases. What principle have you utilized?
- a) Nonmaleficence
  - b) Beneficence
  - c) Justice
  - d) Autonomy

## Question 2

- a. A 65-year-old man comes to his physicians with complaints of abdominal pain that is persistent but not extreme. Workup reveals that he has metastatic cancer of the pancreas. The man has just retired from a busy professional career, and he and his wife are about to leave on a round-the-world cruise that they've been planning for over a year.

Explain whether the patient should be informed about his diagnosis or not? (5)

- b. An 80-year-old Asian woman is hospitalized with weight loss, generalized weakness, and a pulmonary mass. Work-up reveals that she has pulmonary tuberculosis. Her family approaches the physician and asks that the patient not be told, stating that in her upbringing in mainland China tuberculosis was considered fatal and to tell her would be like giving her "a death sentence."

As a health care provider, how would you deal with the concerns raised? (5)

- c. A 55-year-old man has a 3-month history of chest pain and fainting spells. You feel his symptoms merit cardiac catheterisation. You explain the risks and potential benefits to him, and include your assessment of his likely prognosis without the intervention. He is able to demonstrate that he understands all of this, but refuses the intervention.

Can he do that, legally? Should you leave it at that? (5)

- d. A 4-year-old with an obviously broken forearm is brought to the emergency department by her baby-sitter. Both the baby-sitter and emergency room staff have attempted to reach her parents without success.

Explain why you would treat the child without parental permission? (5)

- e. A 5-year-old child has just had his second generalised tonic-clonic seizure in a 4 month period. You have recommended starting an anticonvulsant. The parents have concerns about the recommended medication and would prefer to wait and see if their son has more seizures.

How should you respond to the parents' request? (5)

**TOTAL: 25 marks**

**Question 3**

a). Dr. Veza had an 82-year old mother who was suffering from chronic heart failure. The only thing keeping her alive was the medications which she had been taking for the past 13 years. However, she had no quality of life as she could not even bathe herself or feed herself. One day, Dr. Veza decided to stop giving his mother the medications to hasten her death because the family was having a stressful time taking care of her. A couple of days later, Dr. Veza's mother died. Critique the manner in which Dr. Veza handled his mother's illness. (15)

b). Write brief, self-explanatory notes on

i) Fidelity (5)

ii) Criticism of psychosurgery as a treatment modality (5)

**TOTAL = 25**