

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

MAIN EXAMINATION

NOVEMBER 2021

COURSE TITLE : ETHOS AND PROFFESIONAL PRACTICE

COURSE CODE : GNS 506

TIME ALLOWED : 2 HOURS

TOTAL MARKS ALLOCATED: 75

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 5

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. PLEASE READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

2. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

3. MARK ALLOCATION: 1 mark per explained fact/correct phrase
unless otherwise indicated

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INVIGILATOR

QUESTION1

1. The personal conviction that something is absolutely right or wrong in all situations is called:
 - a. Values
 - b. Morals
 - c. Ethics
 - d. Standards
2. Ethics in nursing profession is very important. The type of ethics that presents a factual narration of moral behaviors is called:
 - a. Metaethics
 - b. Normative ethics
 - c. Descriptive ethics
 - d. All of these
3. Informed consent is a method that promotes:
 - a. Autonomy
 - b. Nonmaleficence
 - c. Beneficence
 - d. Justice
4. The principles or standards that influence behavior and decision making which are based on experience, religion, education and culture is called:
 - a. Morals
 - b. Ethics
 - c. Values
 - d. Standards of practice
5. The nurse in a unit is caring for several clients. To distribute nursing care the nurse utilized the principle of triage due to the limited availability of resources. The nurse is promoting which ethical principle?
 - a. Fidelity
 - b. Justice
 - c. Veracity
 - d. Confidentiality
6. Privacy and confidentiality of all client information is legally protected. In which of the following situations would the nurse make an exception to this practice?
 - a. When the client threatens self-harm and harm to others
 - b. When a visitor insists that he has been given permission by the client
 - c. When the nurse decides that the family has a right to know the client's diagnosis
 - d. When a family member offers information about their loved one
7. The nurse returns to the client's room in exactly four hours to administer the next dose of pain medication as promised. Which of the following ethical rules is best demonstrated by the nurse?
 - a. Nonmaleficence
 - b. Confidentiality

- c. Justice
 - d. Fidelity
8. The means or tool for the individual to document his or her wishes for future healthcare decisions is called a(n)
- a. Prime directive.
 - b. Advance directive.
 - c. Last will and testament.
 - d. Financial durable power of attorney.
9. An ethical dilemma is defined as
- a. A real or perceived conflict of values and beliefs.
Only found in situations regarding withdrawing of life-support.
 - b. The nurse and the physician do not communicate well with the patient.
 - c. None of the above
10. Which of the following are considered the most common ethical principles currently applied in healthcare decision making?
- a. Negotiating, harboring, enlisting, issuing, delegating, acceptance
 - b. Denial, anger, resistance, bargaining, acceptance, enlisting, issuing
 - c. Autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, fidelity, right-to-know, justice, veracity
 - d. Automotive, benevolent, non-benevolent, finality, wrong-to-know, judicious, veracity
11. Deontologic ethics is
- a. The principle that all people are not of equal value.
 - b. A little white lie is okay if it is seen to be in the person's best interest.
 - c. Based upon the principle that people should always be treated as means to an end.
 - d. A system of ethical decision making that stands on moral rules and unwavering principles
12. Principlism is a system of ethics based on the four moral principles of_ ?
- a. Autonomy, justice, fidelity, veracity
 - b. Beneficence, autonomy, justice and nonmaleficence
 - c. Nonmaleficence, veracity, and justice
 - d. Justice, autonomy, fidelity and advocacy
13. The termination of a sick person's life to minimize pain and suffering is known as:
- a. Euthanasia
 - b. Abortion
 - c. Putting to sleep
 - d. Anaesthetising

14. A patient's family does not know the patient's end-of-life care preferences, but assumes that they know what is best for the patient under the circumstances. This assumption reflects:
- Justice.
 - Paternalism.
 - Pragmatism.
 - Veracity.
15. Which of the following would you consider to not being ethical?
- Asking for assistance from the charge nurse when you are not clear on something
 - Respecting the residents as individuals
 - Keeping information about a resident confidential
 - Ignoring the needs of a patient that is not assigned to you

MARKS:15

QUESTION 2

Scenario

Mrs Maziya is a 65 year old woman who is brought to the emergency department (ED) via ambulance after her neighbour found her in respiratory distress. On examination these are the findings: *the patient is minimally responsive to verbal stimuli, afebrile, normotensive, tachycardic to 130 bpm, and tachypnoeic to 30 breaths/min. A chest X-ray revealed a right lower lobe consolidation.*

Based on her old notes it was found out that she had been recently admitted for investigation of significant weight loss and it was found to be a result of advanced bowel cancer, with lungs, bone and brain metastases. While in ED Mrs Maziya's respiratory functions deteriorate and a referral for ICU is made. She is admitted there for closer observation. Some questions arise there such as whether to intubate and ventilate this patient in case she develops respiratory failure; her chances of recovery from this critical illness; whether it had been discussed with the next of kin before the plan for ICU admission? It emerged that she has two children but has been alienated from her daughter for the past five years so she was not aware of her mother's condition. But she stated that she wanted everything done for her mother to preserve her life. Her son was also informed about his mother's condition and he revealed that Mrs Maziya had previously stated to him that she does not want any heroic measures in the event of cardiac arrest. The conversation with Mrs Maziya's son over the phone resulted in the decision to initiate a 'not for resuscitation' (NFR) order. The purpose of the NFR order is to deliberately withhold life-saving measures when the patient's respiratory or cardiac function suddenly stops.

2.1 The following questions refer to this scenario.

- a. Explain the ethical issue(s) here (2)
- b. Describe any five factors that would affect the decision making in this scenario. (10)
- c. Using the nursing process ethical decision making guidelines or framework, discuss how this issue can be resolved by the Ethics team/Committee. (15)
- d. 2.2 Explain the four components of ethos in nursing. Support with appropriate examples. (8)

MARKS: 35

QUESTION 3

3.1 Explain the following ethical theories. (12)

- i. Deontology
- ii. Utilitarianism
- iii. Teleological theories
- iv. Principlism

3.2 Discuss any five threats to ethos in nursing. Give appropriate examples. (10)

3.3 List any three characteristics of a profession. (3)

MARKS: 25

GRAND TOTAL: 75