



## Disclosures

**Criteria for Completion: Attend 100% of program**

**No planner or presenter has any conflicts of interest related to the content of this activity**

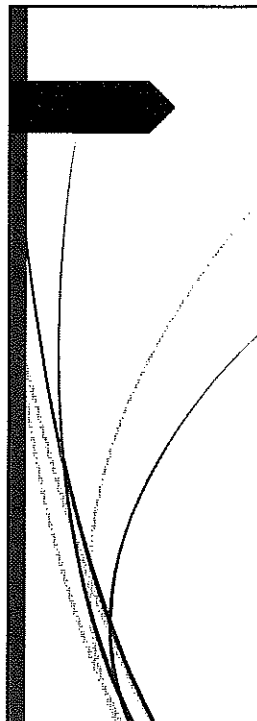
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## Laws, Rules & Ethics: What's A Nurse to Do?

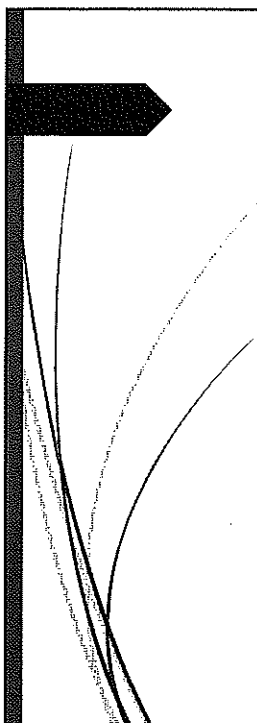
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## Education Outcome

- ▶ **Nurses attending this session will be able to apply their knowledge of Ohio's nursing rules and codes of conduct when confronted with ethical dilemmas in practice.**



## Laws and Ethics

**What is the difference between the two?**



## Laws vs. Ethics

### LAWS

- Slow to keep up with change
- Enacted to guide behaviors
- Come from outside sources
- Rigid with little flexibility
- Violations carry penalties

### ETHICS

- Represent valued beliefs and behaviors
- No government presence
- Each person has a choice about adherence
- Can be interpreted to fit a situation



## Personal and Professional Ethics

**What is the difference between the two?**

## Personal Ethics vs. Professional Ethics

### Personal

- Based on own personal history/experiences
- Reflect only own values/morals
- Can be flexible and/or circumstantial in nature
- Can be changed quickly

### Professional

- Professionally accepted standards of personal and professional behavior
- Established by professional associations
- Prescribes how professionals are to pursue their common ideal

## The Ethical Nurse

### **ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses**

A written list of professional values and standards of conduct

Provides a framework for decision making on a day-to day basis.

### **Ohio Standards of Practice – OAC 4723-4**

A written list of rules that licensee must follow

Provides direction on scope, practice, and behavior on a 24/7/365 basis.

## ANA's Code of Ethics for Nurses

- Provision 1    **Respect for Others**
- Provision 2    **Commitment to Patient**
- Provision 3    **Advocacy for the Patient**
- Provision 4    **Accountability and Responsibility for Practice**
- Provision 5    **Duty to Self and Duty to Others**
- Provision 6    **Contribution to Health Environments**
- Provision 7    **Advancement of the Nursing Profession**
- Provision 8    **Promotion of Community and World Health**
- Provision 9    **Promotion of the Nursing Profession**

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## OAC Chapter 4723-4-06 Standards Of Practice Promoting Patient Safety

- **Shall not falsify any patient record or those used in conjunction with nursing practice**
- **Shall implement measures to promote a safe environment for each patient**
- **Shall not engage in sexual conduct either verbally or physically with a patient**
- **Shall not misappropriate a patient's property**

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OAC Chapter 4723-4-06  
Standards Of Practice Promoting Patient Safety

- **Shall delineate, establish, and maintain professional boundaries with each patient**
- **Shall not engage in behavior that causes physical, verbal, mental or emotional abuse to a patient**
- **Engage in behavior to seek or obtain personal gain at a patient's expense.**

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Standards of Nursing Practice  
OAC 4723-4-06(Q)

A nurse shall not use social media, texting, emailing, or other forms of communication with, or about a patient, for non-health care purposes or for purposes other than fulfilling the nurse's assigned job responsibilities.

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## Standards of Nursing Practice OAC 4723-4-03(H)

The registered nurse shall communicate patient information with other members of the health care team for health care purposes only, shall access patient information only for purposes of patient care, or for otherwise fulfilling the nurse's assigned job responsibilities, and shall not disseminate patient information for purposes other than patient care, or for otherwise fulfilling the nurse's assigned job responsibilities, through social media, texting, emailing or any other form of communication.

7/27/2016

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## Ethical Issues Common in Practice

- 30% of nurses surveyed in 6 New England states reported facing ethical issues 1-4 times/week.
- Most common
  - protection of patients' rights
  - respecting/not respecting informed consent
- Most disturbing
  - staffing patterns limitation of access to nursing care

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## Ethical Decision Making Process

- ▶ Similar to nursing process
- ▶ Ethical decision making is a problem solving process
  - ▶ Gather data,
  - ▶ Analyze information relative to the ethical dilemma
  - ▶ Define the ethical dilemma
  - ▶ Examine/clarify the values/moral positions represented
  - ▶ Make a decision, take action
  - ▶ Evaluate effects of actions taken/not taken.

## Nurses Ranked #1 for 14<sup>th</sup> Straight Year

- ▶ 85% of Americans rated nurses' honesty and ethical standards as 'very high' or 'high'
- ▶ This rating is 17% higher than the profession ranked as #2

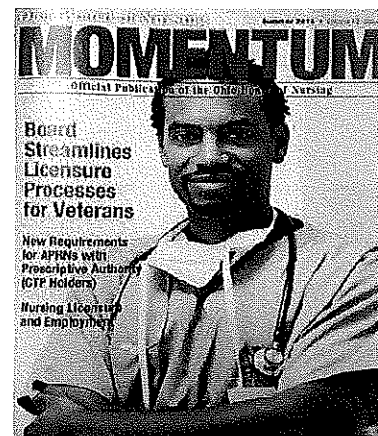


## Your Code of Ethics

- Developing your own personal code of ethics is one of the most important things you can do for yourself.
- Make a list of all your ethical beliefs
  - How important are these beliefs to you?
  - Are you willing to stand by them, or do they only apply in certain situations?

## Stay Informed

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## Conclusion

**2016 American Nurses Association  
National Nurses Week Theme**

**‘Culture of Safety: It Starts with YOU’**

**Knowledge of nursing rules and laws essential to  
safe and effective practice.**