



Certified Pediatric Nurse Review Course: Professional Responsibilities

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NEMOURS
CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Introduction

Understanding professional responsibilities is crucial for Certified Pediatric Nurse (CPN) exam preparation.

Key areas include:

- Legal Aspects
- Ethics
- Research/Evidence – Based Practice
- Professional Communications Issues
- Professional Boundaries
- Care of Self and Colleagues
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Nurses advocate for patients, navigate ethical dilemmas, and are culturally aware. Legal responsibilities, such as proper documentation, are also essential. These elements are vital for providing comprehensive and ethical care.

Objectives



Identify legal and ethical elements of pediatric nurses' professional responsibilities.



Identify pediatric nurses' roles in supporting evidence-based practice in the healthcare setting.



Identify the pediatric nurse's responsibility in supporting a health work environment.



Legal Aspects of Care

Ten Legal Aspects of Care

- A. State Nurse Practice Act
- B. Privacy and Confidentiality – HIPPA & FERPA (Family Educational rights and Privacy Act) –21st Century Cures Act
- C. Consent and Assent in Research and Treatment
- D. Negligence
- E. Malpractice
- F. Coordination and Delegation of Care
- G. Emancipated Minor
- H. Laws of Children with Chronic Conditions
- I. Additional Legal Issues



State Nurse Practice Act

The primary guide for what a nurse can and cannot do in each state.

Delaware

The Delaware Nurse Practice Act governs the practice of nursing. It covers the licensure of RNs, LPNs, and APRNs and defines the scope of practice for each role; and includes advanced assessment, diagnosis, and APRN prescribing. It also includes regulations for nursing education programs and the disciplinary process for nurses. [Delaware Division of Professional Regulation website](#)

Florida

The Florida Nurse Practice Act outlines the scope of practice for RNs, LPNs, and APRNs. It includes regulations on nursing education, licensure, and the disciplinary process for nurses who violate the act [Florida Senate website](#)

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Nurse Practice Act regulates the practice of professional and practical nursing. It includes provisions for the licensure and certification of RNs, LPNs, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP), and Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS). The act outlines the scope of practice, standards for nursing education programs, and disciplinary actions for violations. [Pennsylvania Department of State website](#)

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

Developed to protect insurance coverage for workers when they lose or change jobs (portability) and stipulates regulations to preserve confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information to protect and individual's rights to privacy.



HIPPA:

- **Protects Patient Privacy:** Sets standards to safeguard personal health information.
- **Ensures Data Security:** Requires safeguards for electronic health information.
- **Provides Patient Rights:** Grants patients access to their health records and control over their information.
- **Facilitates Health Information Exchange:** Promotes secure sharing of health data among providers. [Assures confidentiality when communicating health related-information about a patient; a healthcare provider is permitted to disclose protected health information about an individual to a healthcare provider for that provider's treatment of the individuals.](#)
- **Reduces Fraud and Abuse:** Establishes standards to prevent healthcare fraud.
- **Simplifies Administrative Processes:** Standardizes electronic healthcare transactions.
- **Enforces Compliance:** Sets penalties for violations of privacy and security rules.
- **Exceptions to privacy rule:** [If the patient is a danger to themselves or to others or is being abused.](#)
- **Care should be taken** to avoid inadvertently sharing protected patient information in public settings (e.g. elevators)



Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act FERPA

FERPA is a distinct law from HIPAA, specifically governing health records in educational settings. Pediatric nurses must recognize that health records in schools are regulated by this separate law.

- Is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.
- It gives parents the right to access and amend their children's records and control the disclosure of personal information.
- These rights transfer to students when they turn 18 or enter a postsecondary institution.

The 21st Century Cures Act, enacted in 2016, aims to speed up medical research and innovation. It enhances data sharing, supports major health initiatives, and ensures patients have better access to their electronic health records.

Pediatric Nurses need to ensure the health literacy of patients and their families by advocating and providing education that meets their learning needs.



Other Legal Aspects of Care

Consent and Assent in Research and Treatment:

- Consent: Voluntary agreement by an informed adult to participate in research or treatment.
- Assent: Agreement by a minor or someone unable to consent, with guardian approval.

Negligence:

- Definition: Failure to provide the standard of care, leading to potential harm.
- Examples: Misdiagnosis, surgical errors, improper medication.

Malpractice:

- Definition: Professional negligence causing harm, injury, or death.
- Examples: Misdiagnosis, unnecessary surgery, incorrect medication.



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Coordination and Delegation Of Care

- Delegated task must be allowed by the nurse practice act in the state – Assessments may never be delegated – such as system assessment , assessments of IV sites
- Delegation involves the transfer of responsibility for the task/skill without transfer of accountability for the ultimate outcome.

Emancipated minor

- A person under 18 who is legally independent from parents or guardians.
- Can make decisions and enter contracts on their own.
- Emancipation can occur through:
 - Marriage
 - Military service
 - Court order



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Laws for Children with Chronic Conditions

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA)

- Guarantees that children with disabilities will receive a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.
- Ensures that children suspected of having disabilities will be evaluated at no cost.
- Mandates that an Individualized Education Program (IEP) be developed by a team of specialists, including parents.
- Requires a transition plan to be developed by age 16.
- Promotes early intervention to identify infants and toddlers with disabilities and implement measures to help them enter school ready to learn.

Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Civil Rights

- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination based on disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. It ensures equal access to education, employment, and public services by requiring reasonable accommodations. Examples include providing Braille textbooks for students with visual impairments, sign language interpreters for employees with hearing impairments, and ramps for individuals with mobility issues.



Ethics

Autonomy – Personal freedom and self-determination; the right to choose

Beneficence – Actions taken should promote good

Maleficence – Do no harm

Veracity – Truth Telling

Fidelity – Keeping one's promises / commitments

Justice – Treating all fairly and equally

Respect Other – Avoiding coercion/undue influence



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Research/Evidence-Based Practice



- Research
- Evidence-based Practice
- Quality Improvement
- Clinical Pathways and Care Bundles
- Evidence-based Tools



Professional Communications Issues



Professional Boundaries

Professional Boundaries

Therapeutic Relationships



Professional Boundaries





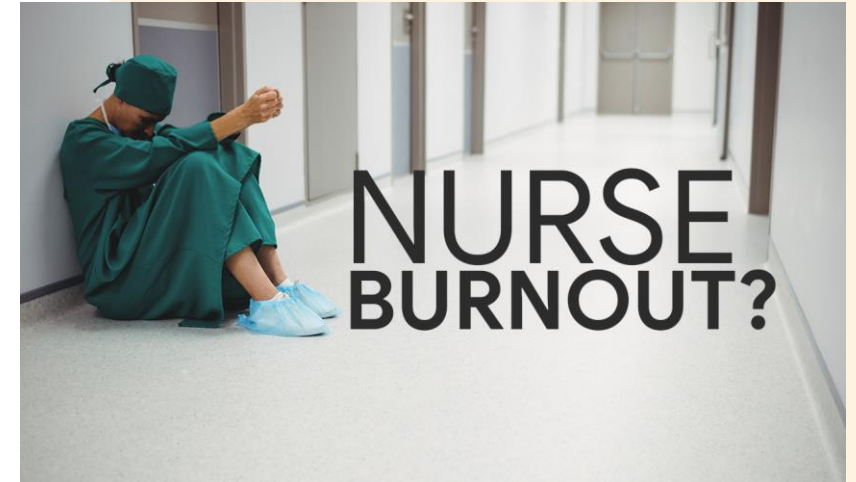
Care of Self and Colleagues

Care of Self & Colleagues

Self-Care: Nurses should prioritize their own physical and mental health to provide the best care for patients¹.

Supportive Environment: Creating a supportive and respectful workplace is essential for ethical practice and high-quality patient care.

Mutual Respect: Nurses should foster mutual respect and collaboration among colleagues to enhance the work environment.



RESILIENCE
is the ability
to find the inner
strength to bounce
back from a
SET-BACK OR CHALLENGE

A photograph of four children of diverse backgrounds (two boys and two girls) standing in a grassy field. They are all smiling and looking upwards towards the sky. The lighting is warm, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. A semi-transparent teal banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image, containing the text 'Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)'.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Diversity

Presence of
different people
and perspectives



Equity

Fair access,
opportunity, and
support



Inclusion

A sense of
belonging, voice,
and
decision-making
authority



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Prioritizing Care Across Patient Assignments Within A Healthcare Setting

Patient A: A post-operative patient with a hemoglobin level of 6.8 and an O2 saturation of 86% on room air.

Patient B: A diabetic patient with a blood glucose level of 350 mg/dL.

Patient C: A patient scheduled for discharge who needs final assessments and education on medication management.

Patient D: A stable patient requiring routine vital sign checks and assistance with mobility exercises.

Immediate Attention (A): Address Patient A first due to the critical nature of their condition. Low hemoglobin and low oxygen saturation are life-threatening and require immediate intervention to prevent serious harm.

Urgent Needs (B): Next, attend to Patient B. High blood glucose levels need to be managed promptly to prevent complications such as diabetic ketoacidosis.

Routine Care (C): After stabilizing the urgent cases, focus on Patient C. Completing discharge assessments and providing medication education.

Proactive Care (D): Finally, assist Patient D with routine checks and mobility exercises. While these tasks are important for the patient's recovery, they are not as time-sensitive as the other need.



Let's Test Your Knowledge!

Knowledge Check

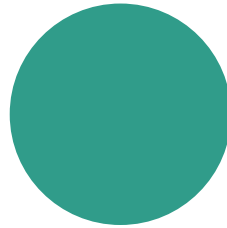


What is the main purpose of the State Nurse Practice Act

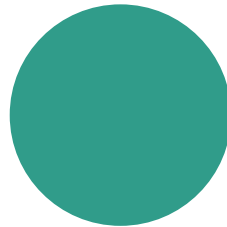
- A. To regulate the practice of nursing and ensure public safety.
- B. To provide funding for nursing education programs.
- C. To standardize nursing salaries across all states.
- D. To limit the number of nurses in each healthcare facility.

Answer: A. To regulate the practice of nursing and ensure public safety.

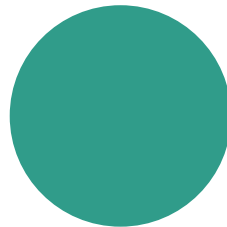
State Nurse Practice Acts are laws enacted by state legislatures to:



Define the Scope of Nursing Practice: They outline what nurses are legally permitted to do in their professional roles, ensuring that nurses practice within their competencies.



Set Educational and Licensure Requirements: They establish the qualifications needed to become a licensed nurse, including educational standards and examination requirements.



Protect Public Health and Safety: By regulating nursing practice, these acts aim to ensure that nurses provide safe and competent care to patients. They include provisions for disciplinary actions against nurses who violate professional standards or engage in unsafe practices.

Knowledge Check

One main goal of the IDEA act (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act)

A. Provide free and appropriate public education to all students, regardless of disability.

B. Ensure that all students receive the same standardized curriculum.

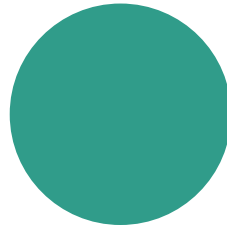
C. Limit the number of students with disabilities in mainstream classrooms.

D. Reduce the funding for special education programs.

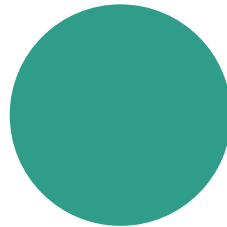


Answer A. Provide free and appropriate public education to all students, regardless of disability.

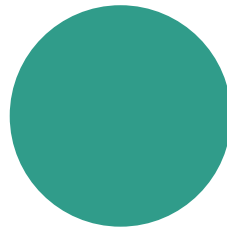
IDEA was established to ensure that children with disabilities have access to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) that meets their unique needs. This includes:



Individualized Education Programs (IEPs): Tailored plans designed to address the specific educational needs of each student with a disability.



Least Restrictive Environment (LRE): Ensuring that students with disabilities are educated alongside their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate.



Special Education Services: Providing necessary support and services to help students with disabilities succeed academically and socially.

Knowledge Check

Which of these is not a principle of ethics guiding care?

- A. Autonomy
- B. Beneficence
- C. Maleficence
- D. Justice



Answer: C. Maleficence

The term "maleficence" is not correct because it is not one of the recognized principles of ethics guiding care. In healthcare ethics, the primary principles include:

- A. Autonomy: Respecting the patient's right to make their own decisions.
- B. Beneficence: Acting in the best interest of the patient to promote their well-being.
- C. Non-maleficence: Avoiding harm to the patient.
- D. Justice: Ensuring fairness in the distribution of resources and treatment.

"Maleficence" would imply causing harm, which is contrary to the ethical principle of "non-maleficence," which emphasizes the importance of not causing harm to patients. Therefore, "maleficence" is not a guiding principle in healthcare ethics.

Knowledge Check

The Nurse must defend, speak for, protect, and safeguard the child and family to the interdisciplinary team.

A. True

A. False



Answer: A. True

The Nurse must defend, speak for, protect, and safeguard the child and family to the interdisciplinary team.

A. True

This statement is true because nurses act as advocates for their patients. Advocacy involves defending, speaking for, protecting, and safeguarding the interests and rights of patients and their families. Nurses ensure that patients' voices are heard, their rights are respected, and their needs are communicated to the interdisciplinary team. This role is essential for providing holistic care and upholding ethical standards in nursing.



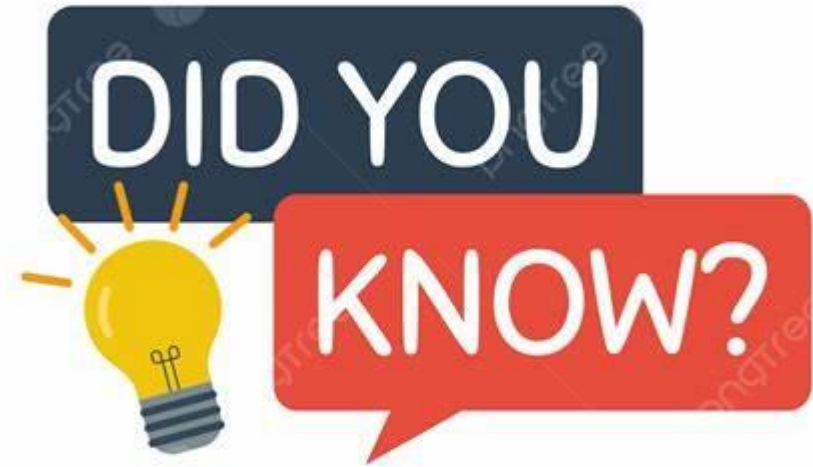
Knowledge Check

- Delegated task must be allowed by the nurse practice act in the state.

Assessments many never be delegated (e.g. , assessment of IV site, systems assessments.

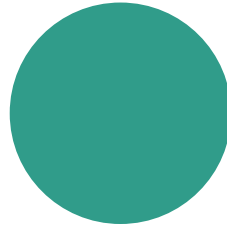
A. True

B. False

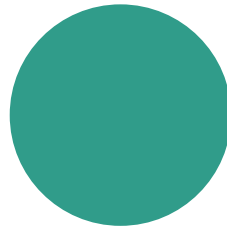


Answer: A. True

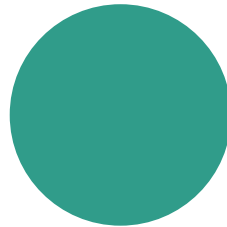
This statement is true because the State Nurse Practice Act (NPA) defines what tasks can be legally delegated. Adhering to the NPA ensures:



Legal Compliance: Tasks are within legal boundaries.



Patient Safety: Delegated tasks are performed by qualified individuals.



Professional Accountability: Nurses are responsible for ensuring delegates are competent.

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Questions?

