

# Approaches to Professional Nursing Practice

## **Week 1: Introduction**

Professional attributes are not distinct but tend to overlap as they contribute to you developing professionally

Popular images of nursing can be positive or negative

Stereotypes of nursing can be negative and wrong and can be damaging to the profession as nurses perform valuable and critical task.

Critical reflection is the ability to think carefully about what you are doing and identify and find the influences on your thinking, decisions, actions and outcomes. Critical thinking enables you to identify what went well, was not so good, what needs changing, the meaning you made of an event and the factors that influence the meaning.

## **Week 2: Professionalism 1 - looking back/moving forward**

There is a clear reciprocal link between the effective factors and self awareness, we need to understand ourselves well if we are to identify the influences on our thinking and actions at the same time as self awareness enhances our effective processes. on going reflection well help us to develop self awareness that is as your self awareness develops it will enhance your reflective practice which will further enhance you self awareness.

### **Self-awareness**

Enhances our reflective processes. Ongoing reflection helps us develop our self-awareness positives of having self-awareness means having a good understanding of the influences of our thoughts and actions which effect on everything we do. There are many influences that we have been exposed to throughout our lives including family upbringing, socioeconomic status, religion, ethnicity, culture, physical and mental health, preventable and significant others beliefs, education, level of intelligence.

The NMBA guidelines outline the nurse's accountability practice and legal profession and ethical contexts that require registered nurse to ensure that their own personal values and attitudes are not opposed on others. Again we will need to be aware of personal values and attitudes before we can ensure that we are not imposing them on other people.

Our values are important as they provide a framework for our perspective on life. they influence what we think and do not impose our own thoughts and beliefs onto others this can be done by having self awareness reflection the ability to look at one's self critically. To view if you were good in a situation or not good in a situation. It's about learning from a situation and seeing how something could have gone better can you be your own observer?

## **Week 3: Professionalism 2 – NMBA Documents**

**Informed consent**- every human being of adult years and sound mind has the right to determine what shall be done with his own body.

For a consent to be truly informed it must be comprehensive, accurate, non-biased, given voluntarily, by adults who are competent and able to consent. It is sometimes not possible to meet all the requirements of informed consent such as a life threatening emergencies, however if the situation is not critical treatment is progressed with our patients consent.

Healthcare professionals could be liable for charges of assault, battery or even false imprisonment. The guiding principle in all of these instances is that if consent is not fully informed than it is not valid such as if a patient consented to a procedure based on inaccurate or even inadequate information.

### **Ethics**

Eight value statement

1. Nurses value quality nursing care for all people
2. Nurses value and respect and kindness for self and others
3. Nurses value the diversity of people
4. Nurses value access to quality nursing and health care for all people
5. Nurses valued informed decision making
6. Nurses value a culture of safety in nursing and health care
7. Nurses value ethical management of information
8. Nurses value a socially, economically and ecologically sustainable environment promoting health and wellbeing.

Nurses have an obligation to promote and safeguard the wellbeing and welfare of people receiving nursing care. MAIN PRINCIPLE

Ethics is about human potential, behaviour and expectations of what is good and socially worthy. On the other hand law is about rules and the consequences or penalties imposed should someone fail to adhere to what society expects.

Four major ethical principles commonly associated with ethics;

- Autonomy
- Beneficence
- Non-maleficence
- Justice

### **Privacy/confidentiality**

Trust is essential for the development of effective therapeutic relationships.

The importance of maintaining confidentiality of patient information. If we reach patient confidentiality not only are we reaching a human right, we are also decreasing or possibly even destroying the trust which is an important component of the therapeutic relationship upon which we base so many of our successes as nurses. Patients need to know that their interpersonal information will be made with the nurse and other members of the treating team.

### **Nursing tribunal**

The tribunal has a dual role, its primary role is to safeguard public safety, and its secondary role is to safeguard professional standards. There is also an educational element to these roles that is the rulings of the tribunal are intended to be forced to nurse's standards that are expected. It's not the role of tribunal to be punitive (disciplinary) but to be protective and to determine measures, minimise the reoccurrence of risks.

Unsatisfactory professional conduct- conduct that is significantly below the standard reasonably expected of a practitioner of equivalent level and experience.

Professional misconduct- is more serious than unsatisfactory professional conduct. It refers to unsatisfactory professional conduct that is of sufficient seriousness to justify suspension or cancellation of registration.

### **Week 4: Scope of Practice**

Scope of practice refers to the concept of registered nurses as professionals being accountable to their patients, to the profession and the general public for providing safe and competent nursing care. We are only able to do this if we practice within the boundaries of learnt skills and competencies, to do that we need to be very aware of what those skills and competencies are. Another attribute of being a professional is that we will be required to delegate tasks to other health workers from time to time. When doing so we need to also be aware of their scope of practice as well ensure that we are delegating tasks within their levels of competency.

#### **Individual scope of practice**

The individual is educated, authorised and competent to perform, may be more specifically defined than the scope of practice of their profession. Individuals may be required to update or increase their knowledge and skills to practice within their full scope of practice.

#### **Profession scope of practice**

The full spectrum of roles, functions, responsibilities, activities and decision making capacity that individuals within that profession are educated, competent and authorised to perform. Will often overlap with other health disciplines.