Critical Care Nursing 9th edition Urden Test Bank

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Chapter 02: Ethical Issues
Urden: Critical Care Nursing, 9th Edition

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. What is the difference between ethics and morals?
   a. Ethics is more concerned with the "why" of behavior.
   b. Ethics provides a framework for evaluation of the behavior.
   c. Ethics is broader in scope than morals.
   d. Ethics concentrates on the right or wrong behavior based on religion and culture values.

   ANS: A
   Ethics are concerned with the basis of the action rather than whether the action is right or wrong, good or bad.

   PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 12
   OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
   MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

2. A patient's wife has been informed by the practitioner that her spouse has permanent quadriplegia. The wife states that she does not want anyone to tell the patient about his injury. The patient asks the nurse about what has happened. The nurse has conflicting emotions about how to handle the situation. What is the nurse experiencing?
   a. Autonomy
   b. Moral distress
   c. Moral doubt
   d. Moral courage

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   ANS: B
   The nurse has been placed in a situation initially causing moral distress and is struggling with determining the ethically appropriate action to take. Moral courage is the freedom to advocate for oneself, patients, and peers. Autonomy is an ethical principle. Moral doubt is not part of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) framework. *The 4A's to Rise Above Moral Distress*.

   PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 12
   OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
   MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

3. By what action can critical care nurses best enhance the principle of autonomy?
   a. Presenting only the information to prevent relapse in a patient
   b. Assisting with only tasks that cannot be done by the patient
   c. Providing the patient with all of the information and facts
   d. Guiding the patient toward the best choices for care

   ANS: C
   Patients and families must have all the information about a certain situation to make an autonomous decision that is best for them.

   PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Applying REF: p. 15 | p. 16

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OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
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4. Which ethical principle is most important when soliciting informed consent from a patient?
   a. Nonmaleficence
   b. Fidelity
   c. Beneficence
   d. Veracity

   ANS: D
   Veracity is important when soliciting informed consent because the patient needs to be aware of all potential risks of and benefits to be derived from specific treatments or their alternatives.

   PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 15
   OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
   MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

5. The principle of respect for persons incorporates what additional concepts?
   a. Confidentiality and privacy
   b. Truth and reflection
   c. Autonomy and justice
   d. Beneficence and nonmaleficence

   ANS: A
   Confidentiality of patient information and privacy in patient interactions must be protected and honored by health care providers out of respect for persons. Confidentiality is a right involving the sharing of patient information with only those involved in the patient's care. Privacy includes confidentiality but goes further to include the right to privacy of person and personal space, such as ensuring that a patient is adequately covered during a procedure.

   PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 16
   OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
   MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

6. Which action best reflects the concept of beneficence within the critical care setting?
   a. Advocating for equitable health care
   b. Promoting for safe patient care
   c. Ensuring equal access for those with the same condition or diagnosis
   d. Confirming technologic advances are available to all in a given community

   ANS: B
   Advocating for patient safety is an example of beneficence. The other actions are examples of justice.

   PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 15 | Box 2-2
   OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
   MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

7. Which statement best describes the concept of paternalism?

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a. Encouraging the patient to ambulate after surgery
b. Demanding the patient get out of bed to sit in a chair
c. Following the patient's advance directive despite family objections
d. Administering antibiotics for a viral infection

ANS: B
Encouraging the patient to ambulate after surgery is an example of beneficence. Demanding the patient get out of bed to sit in a chair is an example of paternalism. Following the patient's advance directive despite family objections is an example of autonomy. Administering antibiotics for a viral infection is an example of physiologic futility.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Applying REF: p. 18
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

8. Which statement regarding the Code of Ethics for Nursing is accurate?
a. The Code of Ethics for Nurses is usurped by state or federal laws.
b. It allows the nurse to focus on the good of society rather than the uniqueness of the patient.
c. The Code of Ethics for Nurses was recently adopted by the American Nurses Association.
d. It provides society with a set of expectations of the nursing profession.

ANS: D
The Code of Ethics for Nursing provides a framework for the nurse to follow in ethical decision-making and provides society with a set of expectations of the profession.

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PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 19
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

9. Ethical decisions are best made by performing which action?
a. Following the guidelines of a framework or model
b. Having the patient discuss alternatives with the practitioner or nurse
c. Prioritizing the greatest good for the greatest number of persons
d. Studying by the Ethics Committee after all diagnostic data are reviewed

ANS: A
To facilitate the ethical decision-making process, a model or framework must be used so that all involved will consistently and clearly examine the multiple ethical issues that arise in critical care.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Understanding REF: p. 20
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

10. What is the first step of the ethical decision-making process?
a. Consulting with an authority
b. Identifying the health problem
c. Delineating the ethical problem from other types of problems
d. Identifying the patient as the primary decision maker

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ANS: B
Step one involves identifying the major aspects of the patient's medical and health problems. Consulting an authority is not always necessary in the process. Delineating the ethical problem from other types of problems may not be necessary. Identification of the patient as primary decision maker is not part of the process.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Remembering REF: p. 20
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

11. A practitioner is suggesting treatments to a patient that are contrary to the patient's preferences. What is this practice called?
a. Invaluable deficiency
b. Physiologic uselessness
c. Ethical futility
d. Situational insufficiency

ANS: C
Ethical futility is treatment that will not serve the underlying interests, values, and preferences of the patient such as when a practitioner's idea of benefit is contrary to the values and preferences of the patient.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Remembering REF: p. 18
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
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12. Institutional ethics committees (IECs) review ethical cases that are problematic for the practitioner. What is the major function of an IEC?
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a. Consultation with purely binding recommendations
b. Support and education to health care providers
c. Conflict resolution for moral dilemmas
d. Recommendations that are binding in all cases

ANS: B
The Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) can function in a variety of ways, serving as consultants, providing education, and helping resolve ethical conflicts or dilemmas for health care providers. Recommendations from the formal IEC may or may not be binding and are relative to the situation at hand.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Remembering REF: p. 22
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

13. Developing an organizational policy that supports unobstructed access to the ethics committee by health care team members is one example of a proactive approach to dealing with what issue?
a. Moral distress
b. Surrogate decision makers
c. Paternalism
d. Patient advocacy

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ANS: A
Every organization must develop policies that support unobstructed access to resources such as the ethics committees to mitigate the harmful effects of moral distress in the pursuit of creating a healthy work environment.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Remembering REF: p. 12 | p. 13 | Box 2-1
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: Assessment TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

14. The nurse is using the SFNO approach to case analysis to facilitate ethical decision-making. What justification criteria may be used to help explain the reasons for selection of one option over another?
    a. Effectiveness
    b. Usefulness
    c. Legal ramifications
    d. Economics

ANS: A
Justification criteria may be helpful in explaining the reasons for selecting one or two options as superior. These include necessity, effectiveness, proportionality, least infringement, and proper process. Usefulness, legal ramifications, and economics are not part of the criteria.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Remembering REF: p. 21 | Box 2-8
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: Assessment TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

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15. The nurse is using the SFNO approach to case analysis to facilitate ethical decision-making. Which question is important to ask when considering stakeholders?
    a. Are there reasons to give priority to one stakeholder over another?
    b. Will the stakeholders abide by the decision?
    c. Will the stakeholders want to be present during the ethics consultation?
    d. Do the stakeholders understand how to use the SFNO model?

ANS: A
In the SFNO model, questions about stakeholders include:
- Who has a stake in the decision being made? Why?
- Who will be significantly affected by the decision made? Why?
- Are there reasons to give priority to one stakeholder over another?

The other questions are not relevant to this process.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Evaluating REF: p. 21 | Box 2-8
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

MULTIPLE RESPONSE

1. Which is/are criteria for defining an ethical dilemma? (*Select all that apply, one, some, or all.*)
    a. An awareness of different options
    b. An issue in which only one viable option exists

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c. The choice of one option compromises the option not chosen
d. An issue that has different options
e. When the healthcare team is in agreement on what to do

ANS: A, C, D
The criteria for identifying an ethical dilemma are threefold: (1) an awareness of the different options, (2) an issue that has different options, and (3) the choice of one option over another compromises the option not chosen.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Remembering REF: p. 21 | Box 2-8
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: Assessment TOP: Ethics
MSC: NCLEX: Safe and Effective Care Environment

2. Which situations are early signs of an ethical dilemma? (*Select all that apply, one, some, or all.*)
a. Disagreements among health care team members
b. Failure to discuss end-of-life issues with patient
c. Aggressive pain management
d. Belief that treatment is harmful
e. Following the patient's advance directive despite family objections
f. Providing hope to the patient's family

ANS: A, B, D
Disagreements among health care team members, failure to discuss end-of-life issues with patient, and belief that treatment is harmful are early signs or indicators of an ethical dilemma.

PTS: 1 DIF: Cognitive Level: Applying REF: p. 19 | Box 2-5
OBJ: Nursing Process Step: General TOP: Ethics
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