

# **Code of Ethics for Nurses in India**

## **1. The nurse respects the uniqueness of individual in provision of care**

### **Nurse**

- 1.1 Provides care of individuals without consideration of caste, creed, religion, culture, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic and political status, personal attributes, or any other grounds
- 1.2 Individualizes the care considering the beliefs, values and cultural sensitivities
- 1.3 Appreciates the place of individual in the family and community and facilitates participation of significant others in the care.
- 1.4 Develops and promotes trustful relationship with individual(s)
- 1.5 Recognizes uniqueness of response of individuals to interventions and adapts accordingly

## **2. The nurse respects the rights of individuals as partner in care and help in making informed choices**

### **Nurse**

- 2.1 Appreciates individual's right to make decisions about their care and therefore gives adequate and accurate information for enabling them to make informed choices
- 2.2 Respects the decisions made by individual(s) regarding their care
- 2.3 Protects public from misinformation and misinterpretations
- 2.4 Advocates special provision to protect vulnerable individuals/groups.

## **3. The nurse respects individual's right to privacy, maintains confidentiality, and shares information judiciously**

### **Nurse**

- 3.1 Respects the individual's right to privacy of their personal information
- 3.2 Maintains confidentiality of privileged information except in life threatening situations and uses discretion in sharing information.
- 3.3 Takes informed consent and maintains anonymity when information is required for quality assurance/ academic/legal reasons
- 3.4 Limits the access to all personal records written and computerized to authorized persons only.

#### **4. Nurse maintains competence in order to render Quality Nursing Care**

- 4.1 Nursing care must be provided only by registered nurse
- 4.2 Nurse strives to maintain quality nursing care and upholds the standards of care
- 4.3 Nurse values continuing education, initiates and utilizes all opportunities for self development.
- 4.4 Nurses values research as a means of development of nursing profession and participates in nursing research adhering to ethical principles.

#### **5. The nurse is obliged to practice within the framework of ethical, professional and legal boundaries**

##### **Nurse**

- 5.1 Adheres to code of ethics and code of professional conduct for nurses in India developed by Indian Nursing Council
- 5.2 Familiarizes with relevant laws and practices in accordance with the law of the state

#### **6. Nurse is obliged to work harmoniously with members of the health team**

##### **Nurse**

- 6.1 Appreciates the team efforts in rendering care
- 6.2 Cooperates, coordinates and collaborates with members of the health team to meet the needs of people

#### **7. Nurse commits to reciprocate the trust invested in nursing profession by society**

##### **Nurse**

- 7.1 Demonstrates personal etiquettes in all dealings
- 7.2 Demonstrates professional attributes in all dealings

# **Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses in India**

## **1. Professional Responsibility and accountability**

### **Nurse**

- 1.1 Appreciates sense of self-worth and nurtures it
- 1.2 Maintains standards of personal conduct reflecting credit upon the profession
- 1.3 Carries out responsibilities within the framework of the professional boundaries
- 1.4 Is accountable for maintaining practice standards set by **Indian Nursing Council**
- 1.5 Is accountable for own decisions and actions
- 1.6 Is compassionate
- 1.7 Is responsible for continuous improvement of current practices
- 1.8 Provides adequate information to individuals that allows them informed choices
- 1.9 Practices healthful behavior

## **2. Nursing Practice**

### **Nurse**

- 2.1 Provides care in accordance with set standards of practice
- 2.2 Treats all individuals and families with human dignity in providing physical, psychological, emotional, social and spiritual aspects of care
- 2.3 Respects individuals and families in the context of traditional and cultural practices, promoting healthy practices and discouraging harmful practices
- 2.4 Presents realistic picture truthfully in all situations for facilitating autonomous decision-making by individuals and families
- 2.5 Promotes participation of individuals and significant others in the care
- 2.6 Ensures safe practice
- 2.7 Consults, coordinates, collaborates and follows up appropriately when individuals' care needs exceed the nurse's competence

## **3. Communication and Interpersonal Relationships**

### **Nurse**

- 3.1 Establishes and maintains effective interpersonal relationships with individuals, families and communities
- 3.2 Upholds the dignity of team members and maintains effective interpersonal relationship with them
- 3.3 Appreciates and nurtures professional role of team members
- 3.4 Cooperates with other health professional to meet the needs of the individuals, families and communities

## **4. Valuing Human Being**

### **Nurse**

- 4.1 Takes appropriate action to protect individuals from harmful unethical practice
- 4.2 Considers relevant facts while taking conscience decisions in the best interest of individuals
- 4.3 Encourages and supports individuals in their right to speak for themselves on issues affecting their health and welfare
- 4.4 Respects and supports choices made by individuals

## **5. Management**

### **Nurse**

- 5.1 Ensures appropriate allocation and utilization of available resources
- 5.2 Participates in supervision and education of students and other formal care providers
- 5.3 Uses judgment in relation to individual competence while accepting and delegating responsibility
- 5.4 Facilitates conducive work culture in order to achieve institutional objectives
- 5.5 Communicates effectively following appropriate channels of communication
- 5.6 Participates in performance appraisal
- 5.7 Participates in evaluation of nursing services
- 5.8 Participates in policy decisions, following the principle of equity and accessibility of services
- 5.9 Works with individuals to identify their needs and sensitizes policy makers and funding agencies for resource allocation

## **6. Professional Advancement**

### **Nurse**

- 6.1 Ensures the protection of the human rights while pursuing the advancement of knowledge
- 6.2 Contributes to the development of nursing practice
- 6.3 Participates in determining and implementing quality care
- 6.4 Takes responsibility for updating own knowledge and competencies
- 6.5 Contributes to core of professional knowledge by conducting and participating in research