CODE OF ETHICS FOR NURSES

with interpretive statements

PROVISION 1: RESPECT FOR OTHERS
The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.

PROVISION 2: COMMITMENT TO THE PATIENT
The nurse’s primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.

PROVISION 3: ADVOCACY FOR THE PATIENT
The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.

PROVISION 4: ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PATIENT
The nurse has authority, accountability, and responsibility for nursing practice; makes decisions; and takes action consistent with the obligation to promote health and to provide optimal care.

PROVISION 5: DUTY TO SELF AND DUTY TO OTHERS
The nurse owes the same duties to self as to others, including the responsibility to promote health and safety, preserve wholeness of character and integrity, maintain competence, and continue personal and professional growth.

PROVISION 6: CONTRIBUTION TO HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTS
The nurse, through individual and collective effort, establishes, maintains, and improves the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment that are conducive to safe, quality health care.

PROVISION 7: ADVANCEMENT OF THE NURSING PROFESSION
The nurse, in all roles and settings, advances the profession through research and scholarly inquiry, professional standards development, and the generation of both nursing and health policy.

PROVISION 8: PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY AND WORLD HEALTH
The nurse collaborates with other health professionals and the public to protect human rights, promote health diplomacy, and reduce health disparities.

PROVISION 9: PROMOTION OF THE NURSING PROFESSION
The profession of nursing, collectively through its professional organizations, must articulate nursing values, maintain the integrity of the profession, and integrate principles of social justice into nursing and health policy.

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NURSING SCOPE AND STANDARDS OF PRACTICE

The Standards of Practice describe a competent level of nursing care as demonstrated by the critical thinking model known as the nursing process.

STANDARD 1. ASSESSMENT
The registered nurse collects pertinent data and information relative to the healthcare consumer’s health or the situation.

STANDARD 2. DIAGNOSIS
The registered nurse analyzes the assessment data to determine actual or potential diagnoses, problems, and issues.

STANDARD 3. OUTCOME IDENTIFICATION
The registered nurse identifies expected outcomes for a plan individualized to the healthcare consumer or the situation.

STANDARD 4. PLANNING
The registered nurse develops a plan that prescribes strategies to attain expected, measurable outcomes.

STANDARD 5. IMPLEMENTATION
The registered nurse implements the identified plan.

STANDARD 5A. COORDINATION OF CARE
The registered nurse coordinates care delivery.

STANDARD 5B. HEALTH TEACHING AND HEALTH PROMOTION
The registered nurse employs strategies to promote health and a safe environment.

STANDARD 6. EVALUATION
The registered nurse evaluates progress toward attainment of goals and outcomes.

STANDARD 7. ETHICS
The registered nurse practices ethically.

STANDARD 8. CULTURALLY CONGRUENT PRACTICE
The registered nurse practices in a manner that is congruent with cultural diversity and inclusion principles.

STANDARD 9. COMMUNICATION
The registered nurse communicates effectively in all areas of practice.

STANDARD 10. COLLABORATION
The registered nurse collaborates with the healthcare consumer, and other key stakeholders in the conduct of nursing practice.

STANDARD 11. LEADERSHIP
The registered nurse leads within the professional practice setting and the profession.

STANDARD 12. EDUCATION
The registered nurse seeks knowledge and competence that reflects current nursing practice and promotes futuristic thinking.

STANDARD 13. EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND RESEARCH
The registered nurse integrates evidence and research findings into practice.

STANDARD 14. QUALITY OF PRACTICE
The registered nurse contributes to quality nursing practice.

STANDARD 15. PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE EVALUATION
The registered nurse evaluates one’s own and others’ nursing practice.

STANDARD 16. RESOURCE UTILIZATION
The registered nurse utilizes appropriate resources to plan, provide, and sustain evidence-based nursing services that are safe, effective, and financially responsible.

STANDARD 17. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
The registered nurse practices in an environmentally safe and healthy manner.

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