Pass on ethics in nursing profession
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Abstract

Introduction: Understanding the ethical issues involved in nursing practice is critical for all nurses, especially managers and leaders. Ethical issues are intertwined in many ways, but the two entities are distinct bodies of thought and practice. Ethics and laws both derive from societal values. Ethics is a branch of philosophy that involves clarification of the “shoulds” and “oughts” of individuals and society. Ethical decision making entails a distinctive choice between undesirable options. Ethical algorithms help to guide decisions by looking at multiple dimensions of the situation under review.

Material and Method: This study is a review article based on the information and data, which is published in the internet, journals and associated researches (2000-2012).

Result & conclusion: The first principle is autonomy, which involves the right to self-determination and to make independent personal decisions regarding care. Beauchamp and Childress (2001) imply that the principle of autonomy is sometimes described as respect for autonomy. Beneficence is a principle that speaks to deeds of charity, mercy, and kindness toward the individual. Nonmaleficence literally means to not harm the patient. Munson (2004) believes this is the overriding principle in the care of patients. The principle of justice is actually the deontological ethical theory. According to Beauchamp and Childress (2001), it encompasses the entire field of ethics and refers to the right to be treated justly, fairly, and equally. Nurses must learn how to make ethical decisions, and nurse managers/leaders must direct and guide nurses in making such decisions. Nurses, in increasing numbers, are being invited to participate on ethical committees. These committees are structured with members of the health-care team, administrators, risk managers, attorneys for the institution, and others.

Keywords: Ethics, Nursing