

UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE

NBZ 121E

DEGREE EXAMINATIONS

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TIME: 3 HOURS

SUBJECT: ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

MARKS: 100

This paper consists of 9 pages including cover page

EXAMINERS:

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INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

## QUESTION 1

In South Africa, nursing practice maintains standards of care through its professional body, South African Nursing Council. Furthermore, the International Council of Nursing (ICN) Code of Ethics has been adopted as a guide for nurses, stressing responsibility and advocacy for the human rights of patients, their families and communities and working with other health professionals.

1.1 Discuss the principle elements of the ICN Code of Ethics for Nurses that outline the standards of ethical conduct under the following headings:

1.1.1 Nurses and co-workers (2)

1.1.2 Nurses and people (3)

1.1.3 Nurses and practice (3)

1.2 Describe the acts and omissions in which the nursing council may take disciplinary steps against the registered nurses in relation to professional secrecy. (3)

1.3 Explain the dependent function of a nurse. (4)

1.4 Outline the objectives of SANC. (5)

1.5 Complete the following statements by filling in the missing words. **Write only the number and the missing term.**

1.5.1 ..... is a highly specialised field of study that deals with the dynamics of what is right and wrong in human behaviour. (1)

1.5.2 ..... is the type of standards in nursing practice that relate to the measurement of the care provided (1)

1.5.3 ..... is the practice of accepting employment with another employer outside 'normal' working hours. (1)

1.5.4 ..... acts as the mouthpiece of its members when dispute arises between employer and employee. (1)

1.5.5 ..... serve and protect the public in matters involving health services generally and nursing services in particular. (1)

(1x5 =5)

[25]

## QUESTION 2

2.1 Mr Silo, a 35 year old, is admitted in Ward J, a surgical ward. He is crying and anxious, reporting that he has been harassed and shouted by the nurse when he was requesting pain medication. Mr Silo explains that another patient that is known to the nurse requested the same medication and she gave her. Nursing is regarded as a caring profession founded on strong moral and ethical principles. You are concerned that the nurse did not act as a role model.

- 2.1.1 Describe the role modelling as a characteristic of a nurse. (5)
- 2.1.2 Explain the ethical principles that were violated in the above scenario (7)
- 2.1.3 Describe the caring attributes derived from a moral perspective. (9)

2.2 Explain the following criteria for a nursing profession.

- 2.2.1 A profession is characterised by a large body of specialised theory with well-developed technical skills based on this theory. (2)
- 2.2.2 A profession is characterised by the use of theory from the sciences and other fields of learning relevant to its practice. (2)

[25]

## QUESTION 3

The headlines on Laphuma Ikwezi, a news programme includes the nurse who closed down a clinic and turned patients away because there was no water in the clinic. When the nurse was interviewed, she cited that the environment was not conducive for her to execute her duties. As a student nurse you are aware that nurses are entitled to their rights like any other employee, however they should remain professional and act responsible.

- 3.1 Define professionalism (2)
- 3.2 Explain the following major categories of negligence that result in malpractice lawsuits.
  - 3.2.1 Failure to communicate (2)
  - 3.2.2 Failure to document (2)
- 3.3 Describe the meaning of the letters "NURSE" as depicting their activities (4)
- 3.4 Explain the factual information to be included when writing an incident report (5)

3.5 Match the statement in Column A with the term in Column B. Write only the **NUMBER** and the **TERM**. For an example: 3.1 Ethos

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
3.5.1 A form of insurance that provides the nurse with legal advice and representation should the nurse be involved in legal action related to his or her professional activities. (1)	Accountability Caring
3.5.2 The nurse is answerable for her/his acts and for the way in which her/his responsibilities are fulfilled and can justify her/his actions or failure to act. (1)	Competent Confidentiality
3.5.3 Financial compensation is claimed from Sister Nkosi due to his wrongful actions. (1)	Indemnity
3.5.4 The standards of behaviour reflecting right and wrong. (1)	Informed consent
3.5.5 Nurse Goqi is concerned with his patients, always nurture them and intervene in their situations to preserve, live and promote health. (1)	Liability
3.5.6 The core element of the nurse-patient relationship.	Morals
3.5.7 Students should have knowledge, judgement, skills, energy, experience and motivation as an attribute of caring. (1)	National Health Insurance plan
3.5.8 Aims to achieve a sustainable and affordable universal access to health care services by establishing efficient fund. (1)	Negligence Respect
3.5.9 The ethical principle of keeping a secret or respecting privileged information. (1)	Responsibility
3.5.10 The patient was given a full and accurate information about the matters concerning his health. (1)	

(1x10=10)

[25]

#### QUESTION 4

4.1 South Africa is in a process of introducing National Health Insurance plan to ensure that National Core Standards are achieved. However nurses, which are the backbone of healthcare delivery, continue to leave the country to explore greener pastures while others moonlight to boost their salaries.

- 4.1.1 List seven domains of national core standards (3)
  - 4.1.2 Describe the negative impact in health delivery caused by nurses leaving South Africa for greener pastures (3)
  - 4.1.3 Describe the unacceptable activities in the event of nurses being involved in moonlighting (3)
  - 4.1.4 Describe principles guiding National Health Insurance (8)
  - 4.2 Explain the functions of a professional association/organisation. (8)
- [25]**

#### QUESTION 5

5.1 Mr Leleli, a 40-year-old, at Frere Hospital ward B2 was operated the previous day for drainage of a septic finger. He sustained a human bite during a street fight. He now complains of pain on the operation site and asks for pain medication from nurse Zelda. The nurse delayed to attend to the call and when the patient insisted, you witnessed as he shouted at the patient in the middle of the ward citing that he does not care about people who misbehaved and get injured. You are concerned that the nurse did not consider the importance of therapeutic relationship and you feel that you should advocate for the patient. Mr Leleli lodged a complaint.

- 5.1.1 Describe the actions of a nurse as an advocate to defend patient's rights. (3)
- 5.1.2 Explain the important characteristics of a therapeutic nurse-patient relationship (6)
- 5.1.3 Explain the steps involved in investigating a complaint to ensure a prompt, objective and caring manner of responding to complaints. (6)

5.2 Choose the most appropriate answer. **Write only the number and the letter.**

5.2.1 The fundamental responsibilities of a nurse according to the ICN Code of Ethics for Nurses are:

- i) to promote health
- ii) to promote illness
- iii) to restore health
- iv) to alleviate suffering

A) i, ii, iii,

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.2 The meaning of the lamp in the pledge of service is a symbol that indicates that, the nurse is prepared to be:

- i) The eyes of the blind who are sick.
- ii) The hands of those who do not have the strength to care for themselves.
- iii) The nourisher of those who cannot eat.
- iv) The protector of those who are helpless and vulnerable.

A) i, ii, iii

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.3 The.....function of a nurse states that the nurse has a co-ordinating function with other members of the health team.

A) Dependent

B) Interdependent

C) Independent

D) Multidisciplinary

(1)

5.2.4 The following penalties that may be imposed by SANC to nurses.

- i) A caution or a reprimand
- ii) A reprimand and a caution
- iii) Suspension for a specified period from practising
- iv) An unpaid leave if not already under suspension or has no leave credit

A) i, ii, iii

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.5 In clinical setting, redress, relates to

- i) Staff knowing how to handle client's complaints
- ii) Citizens receiving a sympathetic, positive response.
- iii) Complaints must be handled fast and efficient
- iv) Citizens should be treated with courtesy and consideration.

A) i, ii, iii

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.6 The Batho Pele Principles include the following

- i) To be referred for second opinion
- ii) Consultation
- iii) Service standards
- iv) Courtesy

A) i, ii, iii

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.7 The standards of nursing care must

- i) Be patient /client centred
- ii) Be relevant to the particular area of nursing practice
- iii) Be based on contemporary knowledge of the requirements of the health care situation
- iv) Be immeasurable for improved results

A) i, ii, iii

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.8 The consequences when the nursing council is subjecting a nurse to the disciplinary action include the following.

- i) Emotional stress may be present
- ii) Nurse may be suspend from duty
- iii) If the nurse is a temporary worker the service may be terminated
- iv) The continued cost of legal fees for preparing for defence may be high

A) i, ii, iii

B) i, iii, iv

C) ii, iii, iv

D) all of the above

(1)

5.2.9 The structure or organisational standards in nursing practice

- A) Relates to all aspects of the implementation of nursing care
- B) Relates to the measurement of care provided
- C) Relates to the conditions under which nursing is practised
- D) Relates to all of the above

(1)

5.2.10 The functions of World Health Organisation include:

- i) Promote research into the eradication of the insect vectors
- ii) Assist governments in reducing maternal, infant and child mortality rates
- iii) Assist government with their environmental sanitation programmes, and their efforts to provide pure water and adequate sewage disposal.
- iv) Aids member states in obtaining highly trained personnel by advising on, or organising training programmes,

- A) i, ii, iii
- B) i, iii, iv
- C) ii, iii, iv
- D) all of the above

(1)

(1x10=10)

[25]