



Complex Ethical Dilemmas in Healthcare

As we go through the CEU presentation – please consider/apply some of your ethical codes, ethical standards to the cases. This handout can serve as a reference to part of the Ethics Code from Social Work, Case Management, Nursing, and Licensed Professional Counselors, and Marriage & Family Therapist. Feel free to pull up your entire code on your mobile device to reference/apply it as well.

Part of the Social Work Code of Ethics

1. SOCIAL WORKERS' ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO CLIENTS

1.01 Commitment to Clients

Social workers' primary responsibility is to promote the wellbeing of clients. In general, clients' interests are primary. However, social workers' responsibility to the larger society or specific legal obligations may on limited occasions supersede the loyalty owed clients, and clients should be so advised. (Examples include when a social worker is required by law to report that a client has abused a child or has threatened to harm self or others.)

Source: NASW

Part of the Case Management Code of Ethics

STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Section 1 - Advocacy

S 1 - The Advocate

Certified case managers will serve as advocates for their clients and ensure that:

- a) A comprehensive assessment will identify the client's needs.
- b) Options for necessary services will be provided to the client.
- c) Clients are provided with access to resources to meet individual needs.
 - Recognition that case management is guided by the principles of autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, and justice.

Source: CCMC



Part of the Code of Ethics for Nurses

Provision 1 –The nurse, In all professional relationships, practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and uniqueness of every individual, unrestricted by considerations of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems.

- 1.1 – Respect for human dignity – A fundamental principle that underlies all nursing practice is respect for the inherent worth, dignity, and human rights of every individual. Nurses take into account the needs and values of all persons in all professional relationships.

Source: ANA

Part of the Code of Ethics for Licensed Professional Counselors

Counselor-Client Relationship

1. Primary Responsibility

Mental health counselors value objectivity and integrity in their commitment to understanding human behavior, and they maintain the highest standards in providing mental health counseling services.

1. The primary responsibility of mental health counselors is to respect client autonomy, dignity and promote client welfare.
 2. Mental health counselors are clear with clients about the parameters of the counseling relationship. In a professional disclosure statement, they provide information about expectations and responsibilities of both counselor and client in the counseling process, their professional orientation and values regarding the counseling process, emergency procedures, supervision (as applicable) and business practices. Information is also provided regarding client rights and contact information for the state counseling licensure authority.

Source: AMHCA



Part of the Code of Ethics for Licensed Marriage & Family Therapists

STANDARD I

RESPONSIBILITY TO CLIENTS

Marriage and family therapists advance the welfare of families and individuals and make reasonable efforts to find the appropriate balance between conflicting goals within the family system.

Source: AAMFT