

SUBDOMAIN 726.1 - INTRODUCTION TO NURSING

Competency 726.1.8: Principles of Ethics, Bioethics, & Nursing Regulation - *The graduate demonstrates decision-making skills that reflect a professional and ethical framework and adhere to the guidelines and regulations set by professional and state regulatory bodies.*

Introduction:

Nurses are confronted with ethical decisions every day, ranging from decisions about routine vaccination to issues of death and dying. It is important, therefore, that nurses know how to analyze a bioethical issue based on nursing ethical values, principles, and facts in order not only to make ethical decisions about their practice but also to help support patients and families as they struggle with ethical decisions.

Scenario:

Matt, a 20-year-old white male, was brought into the emergency department unconscious with a needle protruding from a vein in his left forearm. It was determined from his lab work that he had been taking opiates, and a heroin overdose was suspected. After Matt was intubated and placed on mechanical ventilation, he was stabilized and transferred to the intensive care unit. Matt's family was notified, and they rushed to his bedside within a half hour. After speaking with the physician, the family told the healthcare team that they wanted to do everything possible to save their son's life.

An hour later, Matt's heart stopped, and after a full code, Matt was stabilized but was still not breathing on his own. Matt's heart stopped two more times over a span of three hours. Dark blood was becoming visible in the suctioning canister, but Matt remained in a full code status, and the family refused to assign him a "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) status after five codes.

Currently, the physician does not want the patient to have any further resuscitation. EEG shows no brain activity. The nurse is torn between supporting the family and following through with the physician's desires. The nurse manager informs the nurse that she should do as the physician says. The nurse also dislikes caring for drug abuse patients. The patient did not have a DNR order on file. If he had a DNR, there would have been an agency policy to follow it. The hospital also has an ethics committee.

Task:

- A. Analyze (*suggested length of 1–2 pages*) the bioethical issues found within the scenario.
 1. Provide relevant facts that relate to the issues.
 2. Discuss how the nurse and the family members have ownership in the given scenario.
 3. Discuss how the ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence, and non-maleficence relate to the given scenario.
- B. Analyze (*suggested length of 1–2 pages*) **two** bioethical issues in the given scenario in terms of a specific ethical theory of your choice.
 1. (principle-, relationship-, or consequence-based).
 2. Explain how the chosen theory can relate to the given scenario.
 3. Discuss a state law or nursing statute that can be applied to the scenario.
- C. Discuss (*suggested length of 1–2 pages*) **two** alternative actions that could affect the patient outcome.
 1. Apply the ANA Nursing Code of Ethics to guide these actions.

D. Acknowledge sources, using in-text citations and references, for content that is quoted, paraphrased, or summarized.

Note: When bulleted points are present in the task prompt, the level of detail or support called for in the rubric refers to those bulleted points.

Note: For definitions of terms commonly used in the rubric, see the Rubric Terms web link included in the Evaluation Procedures section.

Note: No more than a combined total of 30% of a submission can be directly quoted or closely paraphrased from sources, even if cited correctly.

Web Links:

1. CBP Task 2 Rubric

Introduction to Nursing Task # 2

Review the task and task instructions in TaskStream thoroughly.

Review the grading rubric that is specific to this task. The Rubric Goal column shows the rubric's expectation for each section.

Task Requirement	Hints	Rubric Goal
A. Analyze (<i>suggested length of 1–2 pages</i>) the bioethical issues found within the scenario.	- Discuss all of the bioethical issues you identified in the scenario. One –two pages is the MINIMUM page requirement for section A. - You will not be penalized for going “over” the suggested pages. Students are often asked to elaborate more, or include more details. - If you use your textbook for this task, then you can use your textbook as the reference. You need to include a <u>reference page</u>. DO NOT USE WIKIPEDIA.	The candidate provides a plausible analysis, with substantial support, of the bioethical issues found within the scenario.
A1. Provide relevant facts that relate to the issues.	Discuss the objective data that is related to this scenario.	The candidate provides relevant facts, with substantial detail, that relate to the issues.
A2. Discuss how the nurse and family members have ownership in the given scenario	- Review page 288 for a discussion on the Professional Nursing Code of Ethics. <i>Food for thought:</i> The patient is now unconscious. Who is responsible for “speaking” for the patient? Is responsibility shared? How is that demonstrated?	The candidate provides a logical discussion, with substantial detail, of how the nurse and the family members have ownership in the situation
A3. Discuss how the ethical principle of autonomy, beneficence, and non-maleficence relate to the given scenario)	- Review these concepts on page 287 - If you have not already, you should begin to include <u>in-text citations</u> in this section.	The candidate provides a logical discussion, with substantial detail, of how the ethical principles of autonomy, beneficence, and non-maleficence relate to the given scenario

<u>Task Requirement</u>	<u>Hints</u>	<u>Rubric Goal</u>
B. Analyze (<i>suggested length of 1–2 pages</i>) two of the bioethical issues in the given scenario in terms of a specific ethical theory of your choice.	• Discuss two of the bioethical issues related to the scenario in the context of the chosen ethical theory. One –two pages is the MINIMUM page requirement for section B. • Review the four ethical theories on page 289-290 • <i>Food for thought:</i> Common bioethical issues include: “end-of-life care”, “right to life”, “right-to-die”, “affordable access to care”, “limited organ availability”, etc.	• The candidate provides a plausible analysis, with substantial support, of 2 bioethical issues in the given scenario in terms of a specific ethical theory of choice.
B1. Discuss the theory (principle, consequence-based, or relationship	• Review the four ethical theories discussed on page 289-290 • Discuss your chosen theory.	• The candidate provides a logical discussion, with substantial detail, of the theory.
B2. Explain how the chosen theory can relate to the given scenario.	• Discuss your chosen theory in the context of the given scenario • <i>Food for thought:</i> How and why is the theory applicable to the scenario? How does the theory guide the actions of the players in the scenario? How might the ethical theory guide decision making?	• The candidate provides a logical explanation, with substantial support, of how the chosen theory can relate to the given scenario.
B3. Discuss a state law or nursing statute that can be applied to the scenario	• Review the applicable laws beginning on page 298 • <i>Food for thought:</i> Discuss the law. Why is it applicable? Was it applied to the scenario? If not, should it have been? Did it have bearing on the outcome? Would it have changed the outcome if it had been applied?	• The candidate provides a logical discussion, with substantial detail, of a state law or nursing statute that can be applied to the given scenario.

<u>Task Requirement</u>	<u>Hints</u>	<u>Rubric Goal</u>
C. Discuss (<i>suggested length of 1–2 pages</i>) two alternative actions the nurse could take to affect the patient outcome.	- You must discuss two actions the nurse could have done differently. <i>Food for thought:</i> Do not limit your concepts of “alternative actions” to “complementary and alternative medicine”. <i>Food for thought:</i> You may delve into the idea of alternative actions relating to different ways of communication ... with family, doctors, hospital administration, and the ethics committee.	The candidate provides a logical discussion, with substantial support, of 2 alternative actions the nurse could take to affect the patient outcome.
C1. Apply the ANA Nursing Code of Ethics to guide these actions.	- Review the ANA Code of Ethics on page 288. <i>Food for thought:</i> Discuss the how this code of ethics would guide these alternative actions.	The candidate appropriately applies, with substantial detail, the ANA Nursing Code of Ethics to guide these actions

<u>Task Requirement</u>	<u>Hints</u>	<u>Rubric Goal</u>
D. Acknowledge sources, using in-text citations and references, for content that is quoted, paraphrased, or summarized.	- From TS: - No more than a combined total of 30% of a submission can be directly quoted or closely paraphrased from sources, even if cited correctly.	The submission includes in-text citations for sources that are properly quoted, paraphrased, or summarized and a reference list that accurately identifies the author, date, title, and source location as available.