

 <p>Connecticut Valley Hospital Nursing Policy and Procedure</p>	<p>SECTION A: NURSING SERVICE ORGANIZATION CHAPTER 2: STANDARDS OF NURSING PRACTICE AND CARE</p> <p>Policy and Procedure: 2.8 Nursing Code of Ethics</p>
<p>Authorization: Nursing Executive Committee</p>	<p>Date Effective: May 1, 2018 Scope: Connecticut Valley Hospital</p>

Standard of Practice:

The registered nurse will abide by ethical obligations of the nursing profession, in conduct and relationships, while fulfilling responsibilities to clients and other members of the health team.

Standard of Care:

The patient can expect the nurse to make ethical decisions during the ministration of patient care and discharge of related responsibilities.

Policy:

Connecticut Valley Hospital addresses ethical issues that may arise in professional practice through a facility-wide Ethics Committee. Nursing has adopted the Code of Ethics endorsed by the American Nurses Association and maintains responsibility for initial review of ethical issues and concerns related to nursing conduct and/or relationships.

Procedure:

1. Provides services with respect for human dignity and uniqueness of the patient, unrestricted by considerations of social or economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems.

Involves patients fully in the planning and implementation of their own health care whenever possible.

Determines nursing care solely by human need, irrespective of background, circumstances, or other indices of an individual's social and economic status.

Considers and respects personal attributes such as age, sex, race, color, and personality in the individualization of care. Includes individual value systems and life-styles in the planning of health care for each patient.

Respects the worth and dignity of the individual irrespective of the nature of the health

problem.

Informs appropriate parties of refusal to participate in the delivery of care if personally opposed to procedures to be used or the health problem itself.

Provides the best possible care if a conflicting situation arises unexpectedly or under emergency circumstances.

Withdraws from conflicting situations only when alternative sources of nursing care are made available to the patient and advises the patient of these sources.

Practices and promotes non-discriminatory and non-prejudicial care.

Seeks ways to protect basic human values while working with the patient and others.

Provides assistance which enables the patient to live with as much comfort, dignity, and freedom from anxiety and pain as possible.

2. Safeguards the client's right to privacy by judiciously protecting information of a confidential nature.

Discloses only information pertinent to a patient's treatment and welfare and only to those directly concerned with the patient's care.

Discloses information required for peer review, third party payment, and other quality assurance mechanisms only under rigidly defined policies, mandates, or protocols.

Safeguards any confidential information about the patient acquired from any source.

Testifies to confidential patient information in a court of law only under proper authorization or legal compulsion.

Notifies persons not under nursing care whose records must be accessed and obtain permission whenever possible.

Obtains the patient's consent for use of his/her treatment record for research or nonclinical purposes.

3. Safeguards the patient and the public when health care and safety are affected by incompetent, unethical, or the illegal practice of any person.

Is alert to and takes appropriate action regarding any instances of incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice(s) by any member of the health care team or the health care system itself, or any action on the part of others that is prejudicial to the patient's best interests.

Expresses concern to any person carrying out questionable practice and calls attention to the possible detrimental effect upon the patient's welfare.

When indicated, reports questionable practices to the appropriate authority within the institution, agency, larger system, or other appropriate authorities such as practice committees of professional organizations or legal bodies concerned with licensing.

Participates in the planning, establishment, and implementation of other activities or procedures which serve to safeguard patients.

4. Assumes responsibility and accountability for individual nursing judgments and actions.

Assumes responsibility for data collection and assessment of the health status of the patient; determination of the nursing plan of care directed toward designated goals; evaluation of the effectiveness of nursing care in achieving the goals of care; and subsequent reassessment and revision of the nursing plan of care as defined by the ANA Standards of Nursing Practice.

Evaluates effectiveness of one's clinical competence, decision-making abilities, and professional judgments.

Participates in the evaluation of peer performance and in the development of objective criteria for evaluation.

5. Maintains competence in nursing.

Engages in activities that will improve current practice by keeping knowledge and skills current.

6. Exercises informed judgment and uses individual competence and qualifications as criteria in seeking consultation, accepting responsibilities, and delegating nursing activities to others.

Accepts evolving roles and exercises discretion in carrying out functions that were formerly performed by physicians. Bases discretion on education, experience, legal parameters, and professional guidelines and policies.

Assesses individual competence in assigning selected components of care to other nursing service personnel.

Does not engage in practice prohibited by law or delegates to others activities prohibited by practice acts of other health care personnel or by other laws.

Seeks consultation from qualified nurses or other appropriate sources when the needs of the patient are beyond personal qualifications and competencies.

7. Participates in activities that contribute to the ongoing development of the profession's

body of knowledge.

Is fully informed about both nurse and patient rights and responsibilities before participating in any research.

Understands how research can be expected to affect treatment of the subject.

Protects the life, health, and privacy of human subjects from risks and discontinues participation in any research if its continuance might be harmful to the subject.

8. Participates in the profession's efforts to implement and improve standards of nursing.

Implements and maintains optimal standards.

Monitors standards in everyday practice.

Participates in the profession's ongoing efforts to implement and improve standards at the national, state, and local levels.

9. Participates in the profession's efforts to establish and maintain conditions of employment conducive to high quality nursing care.

Practices professional autonomy and self-regulation in the implementation of standards of practice as established by organized nursing.

Participates in determining the terms and conditions of employment.

10. Participates in the profession's efforts to protect the public from misinformation and misrepresentation and to maintain the integrity of nursing.

Makes factual statements that indicate availability of services through means that are in dignified form, i.e., professional card, brief biography in reputable directories and reputable professional publications.

Refrains from any form of public or professional communication to make self-laudatory statements or claims that are false, fraudulent, misleading, deceptive, or unfair.

11. Collaborates with members of the health professions and other citizens in promoting community and national efforts to meet the health needs of the public.

Maintains professional responsibility to help ensure that citizens/rights to health care are met.

Maintains responsibility to the consumers of health care by involvement in political decision making.

Collaborates with other health care professionals on meeting needs of the patient.