

Enhancing Nursing Professionalism in Pre-registration Nursing Programmes

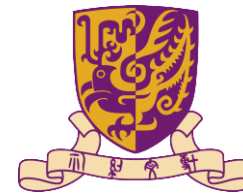
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Background

- Professionalism incorporates the attitudes, behaviour and commitment to the profession.
- Nursing competence therefore not only emphasizes the knowledge base and skills that nurses need to possess, but also the important values in personal and professional caring.

Aim

- To produce a bank of high quality videotaped vignettes in enhancing nursing professionalism.

Implementation plan

A module consists of 15 videotaped vignettes focusing on ethical and professional responsibilities of nurses has been developed.

Contemporary issues:

- disclosing and discussing patient issues on social networking sites
- breach of confidentiality obligations
- negligence
- covering up medication errors
- horizontal violence
- poor interprofessional relationship
- poor moral judgment in nursing practice
- use of poor communication and therapeutics skills



Accountability in Managing Care and Negligence



Scenario:

Kristin, newly graduated from a nursing programme, often makes careless mistakes. On one occasion, she did not check the water temperature while giving bath to an infant and the infant sustained a scald injury of her buttock and genitalia.

Kristin was transferred to a medical ward a month ago. Today, she was responsible for performing blood glucose testing for Mr Chan.



Ethics and Legal Issues



Scenario:

Chester, a healthcare support worker, has been charged with ill-treating a 65-year-old resident in a residential care home.

The incident of abuse was witnessed by Chester's subordinates. Chester denied all charges and claimed that he had been framed by the witnesses.



Standards of Nursing Actions and Professional Responsibilities



Scenario:

Mr Chan, a 70-year-old bus driver, is admitted to a medical ward because of pneumonia. He suffered an ischaemic stroke two years ago, resulting in left side hemiplegia. Today he complains of watery diarrhea and soils his bed linen several times.

Steven, a year one nursing student, has attended to Mr Chan's hygienic care needs promptly.



Questions for Discussion



Examples:

- Do you think the actions of Chester are unethical, illegal or both? Please explain your rationale.
- Identify the unprofessional practices as depicted in the scenario.
- What factors might have contributed to this incident?
- How can we prevent similar incidents in the future?



Evidence of Impact



- Students will be interviewed after implementation of the module to identify the usefulness of current approaches in enhancing their professionalism, and the type of strategies the students perceived as most helpful in helping them develop their ethical and professional responsibilities.