

Code of Ethics for Nurses in India

1. The nurse respects the uniqueness of individual in provision of care

Nurse

- 1.1 Provides care of individuals without consideration of caste, creed, religion, culture, ethnicity, gender, socio-economic and political status, personal attributes, or any other grounds
- 1.2 Individualizes the care considering the beliefs, values and cultural sensitivities
- 1.3 Appreciates the place of individual in the family and community and facilitates participation of significant others in the care.
- 1.4 Develops and promotes trustful relationship with individual(s)
- 1.5 Recognizes uniqueness of response of individuals to interventions and adapts accordingly

2. The nurse respects the rights of individuals as partner in care and help in making informed choices

Nurse

- 2.1 Appreciates individual's right to make decisions about their care and therefore gives adequate and accurate information for enabling them to make informed choices
- 2.2 Respects the decisions made by individual(s) regarding their care
- 2.3 Protects public from misinformation and misinterpretations
- 2.4 Advocates special provision to protect vulnerable individuals/groups.

3. The nurse respects individual's right to privacy, maintains confidentiality, and shares information judiciously

Nurse

- 3.1 Respects the individual's right to privacy of their personal information
- 3.2 Maintains confidentiality of privileged information except in life threatening situations and uses discretion in sharing information.
- 3.3 Takes informed consent and maintains anonymity when information is required for quality assurance/ academic/legal reasons
- 3.4 Limits the access to all personal records written and computerized to authorized persons only.

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4. Nurse maintains competence in order to render Quality Nursing Care

- 4.1 Nursing care must be provided only by registered nurse
- 4.2 Nurse strives to maintain quality nursing care and upholds the standards of care
- 4.3 Nurse values continuing education, initiates and utilizes all opportunities for self development.
- 4.4 Nurses values research as a means of development of nursing profession and participates in nursing research adhering to ethical principles.

5. The nurse is obliged to practice within the framework of ethical, professional and legal boundaries

Nurse

- 5.1 Adheres to code of ethics and code of professional conduct for nurses in India developed by Indian Nursing Council
- 5.2 Familiarizes with relevant laws and practices in accordance with the law of the state

6. Nurse is obliged to work harmoniously with members of the health team


Nurse

- 6.1 Appreciates the team efforts in rendering care
- 6.2 Cooperates, coordinates and collaborates with members of the health team to meet the needs of people

7. Nurse commits to reciprocate the trust invested in nursing profession by society

Nurse

- 7.1 Demonstrates personal etiquettes in all dealings
- 7.2 Demonstrates professional attributes in all dealings


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Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses in India

1. Professional Responsibility and accountability

Nurse

- 1.1 Appreciates sense of self-worth and nurtures it
- 1.2 Maintains standards of personal conduct reflecting credit upon the profession
- 1.3 Carries out responsibilities within the framework of the professional boundaries
- 1.4 Is accountable for maintaining practice standards set by **Indian Nursing Council**
- 1.5 Is accountable for own decisions and actions
- 1.6 Is compassionate
- 1.7 Is responsible for continuous improvement of current practices
- 1.8 Provides adequate information to individuals that allows them informed choices
- 1.9 Practices healthful behavior

2. Nursing Practice

Nurse

- 2.1 Provides care in accordance with set standards of practice
- 2.2 Treats all individuals and families with human dignity in providing physical, psychological, emotional, social and spiritual aspects of care
- 2.3 Respects individuals and families in the context of traditional and cultural practices, promoting healthy practices and discouraging harmful practices
- 2.4 Presents realistic picture truthfully in all situations for facilitating autonomous decision-making by individuals and families
- 2.5 Promotes participation of individuals and significant others in the care
- 2.6 Ensures safe practice
- 2.7 Consults, coordinates, collaborates and follows up appropriately when individuals' care needs exceed the nurse's competence

3. Communication and Interpersonal Relationships

Nurse

- 3.1 Establishes and maintains effective interpersonal relationships with individuals, families and communities
- 3.2 Upholds the dignity of team members and maintains effective interpersonal relationship with them
- 3.3 Appreciates and nurtures professional role of team members
- 3.4 Cooperates with other health professional to meet the needs of the individuals, families and communities

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4. Valuing Human Being

Nurse

- 4.1 Takes appropriate action to protect individuals from harmful unethical practice
- 4.2 Considers relevant facts while taking conscience decisions in the best interest of individuals
- 4.3 Encourages and supports individuals in their right to speak for themselves on issues affecting their health and welfare
- 4.4 Respects and supports choices made by individuals

5. Management

Nurse

- 5.1 Ensures appropriate allocation and utilization of available resources
- 5.2 Participates in supervision and education of students and other formal care providers
- 5.3 Uses judgment in relation to individual competence while accepting and delegating responsibility
- 5.4 Facilitates conducive work culture in order to achieve institutional objectives
- 5.5 Communicates effectively following appropriate channels of communication
- 5.6 Participates in performance appraisal
- 5.7 Participates in evaluation of nursing services
- 5.8 Participates in policy decisions, following the principle of equity and accessibility of services
- 5.9 Works with individuals to identify their needs and sensitizes policy makers and funding agencies for resource allocation

6. Professional Advancement

Nurse

- 6.1 Ensures the protection of the human rights while pursuing the advancement of knowledge
- 6.2 Contributes to the development of nursing practice
- 6.3 Participates in determining and implementing quality care
- 6.4 Takes responsibility for updating own knowledge and competencies
- 6.5 Contributes to core of professional knowledge by conducting and participating in research

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