

ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

Abstract

Professional issues are areas of debate about ethical or practical conduct that underpin good professional practice. Clinical issues with ethical insinuation pose an ever-increasing dilemma in day-to-day medical practice and in case of pediatric health the ethical issues involving them those are unable to take their own decisions. children are immature and also dependent upon their parents. There are many ethical and legal issues affecting the children from their fetal period to adolescence.

Keywords: Ethical issue, pediatric health, Ethical behaviors, supervisory practice.

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I. INTRODUCTION

An ethical framework is like scaffolding around action made up of moral Philosophy, professional codes of behavior, values inherent in the therapeutic model, personal ethics, the law, organizational context. **(Bond 2008)**.

Every individual must understand the scope of organization legal and ethical responsibilities and to minimize the liabilities Ethics is the study of morally upstanding deeds and decisions. and thinking about what has to be done. Human behavior can be molded and shaped by ethics. It helps workers fulfil their responsibilities.

Clinical issues with substantial ethical ramifications present an ever-growing conundrum in modern medical practice and infrequently have a straightforward solution. This is especially true when it comes to moral dilemmas concerning minors and individual's incapable of making their own decisions. While the needs of the patient should always come first and any personal, cultural, and religious prejudice should be eradicated, it is also important to consider the impact of an expensive course of treatment on the available healthcare resources. In order to provide a reasonable and Regardless of belief or culture, it is imperative to establish a morally acceptable code of behavior for the child and society at large.. But unless we "practice what we preach," or else, the effect of preaching will only last as long as a house of cards, ethics cannot be instilled.

“Ethics is the discipline that examines one’s moral standards of society. It asks how those standards apply to our life and whether these standards are reasonable or unreasonable – that is whether these are supported by good reason or poor one”. - **(Manuel G. Velasquez)**. Professional ethics are principles that govern the behavior of a person or group in a business environment. Like values, Professional ethics provide rules on how a person should act towards other people and institution in such an environment.

Ethics are formalised principles derived from social value. These are moral principle which originate from social value and represent rules for moral behaviour and conduct of individuals or groups there of carrying on business.” — **Webster’s Directory**

These descriptions highlight the following aspects of ethics

1. A society's moral norms and values are referred to as its ethics. It only applies in the context of a society.
2. Ethics directs human behaviour or conduct. The behaviour of any member of society that deviates from accepted norms and practises is frowned upon by society. Ethics serve as a benchmark for behaviour in both personal and professional settings. Ethics prevents people from making choices and acting in ways that are detrimental to society.
3. Ethics are universal in their essence. These impose obligations and ideals on each individual in a society. Ethics are crucial in all human endeavours, not just business and politics.
4. Ethical standards differ from society to society. What is considered ethical behaviour in one society might be considered unethical in another. For example, abortion and artificial birth control is a taboo in most of the Islamic countries and catholic Christian communities. But these practices are fully ethical in China, Russia, Japan and many other countries.

Similarly, euthanasia (mercy killing) is permitted in some countries but is strictly unethical in most countries.

5. Ethics is normative or prescriptive in nature. It deals not with what is but what ought to be. It does not rest on feelings of approval or disapproval but on principles. For example, it may be unpleasant to fire an employee but morality may require it.
6. Ethical norms might not be legally binding. But these are more powerful than law because these have the sanction of society. When a person's behaviour is inconsistent with the prevailing values and norms, it is called unethical. Ethics serves as a guide to law by highlighting its shortcomings.
7. The conduct of both individuals and groups is related to ethics. Animal, bird, and insect behaviour is exempt from ethical standards. Only humans possess the ability to direct and control their behaviour..
8. Ethics are not absolute laws. They represent the attitudes and values of a society. There is a degree of discretion because one has the choice to follow moral guidelines. There may be regional and seasonal variations in ethics.
9. The line separating moral and unethical behaviour is not well defined. Because of this, ethical choices are frequently difficult for people to make.
10. The Ethics aims at perfection in human conduct. It guides law makers in framing proper laws to regulate the behaviour of all citizens. Existing norms may contain valuable insights but ethics sets out to critics and test them in terms of ultimate norms.
11. Ethics includes the ideas of justice and equity by default. Its main objective is to treat all people fairly and equally.
12. Ethics and morality are interrelated but not synonymous. In the words of Rogene A. Buchholz "Ethics deals with the formalisations of ethical principles in the abstract or the resolution of concrete ethical problems facing individuals in their daily life. Morality on the other hand generally refers to the tradition of belief that have involved over years. Concerning right and wrong conduct, so that morality has its roots in belief of a society while ethics aim at formulating the principles to justify human behaviour." According to Clarence C. Walton, "morality is the standards than an individual or group has about what is right and wrong good and evil."

II. ETHICS AND SUPERVISORY PRACTICE

An ethical framework is like a scaffolding that surrounds an action and is composed of moral philosophy, professional standards of conduct, principles found in therapeutic models, individual ethics, and the legal and organisational framework.

Moral philosophy's guiding ideas for creating ethical decisions

1. Kant absolute duty
2. Consequentialist theories
3. Virtue theory.

1. The British Philosopher W.D. Gross has listed six basic duties of a person

- Fidelity – doing no harm to others
- Reparation – compensating those we have injured
- Gratitude – giving back to those who have aided us
- Justice – treating people as well as they deserve
- Beneficence – when we can, we try to aid others

- Self-improvement – bettering ourselves but not at the cost of others
2. **Basic ethical principles:** The ethical principles are general statements about what types of action are right or wrong. Which is including the principles of Autonomy, Beneficence, Non- maleficence and Justice. A medical professional shall in the provision of appropriate patient care, except in emergencies, be free to choose whom to serve, with whom to associate, and the environment in which to provide medical care to the needy one. A medical professional must realise their duty to support programmes that improve the community and the health of the general people. additionally facilitating access to healthcare for people.
- All experts make blunders. What matters is that individuals provide their best effort while being aware of ethical ideals and norms of conduct.
 - All norms of behaviour for professionals are founded on ethical ideals. Various occupations may have varying moral requirements.
 - For instance, professional ethics will differ depending on whether a person works as a physician, attorney, or real estate agent.
 - However, there are some ethical principles that are common to all professions, like ;
3. **Beneficence:** The "beneficence principle" outlines a fundamental rule of moral behaviour. In essence, this implies showing kindness to others. This principle states that all of our thoughts and deeds must be focused on making sure that others gain from them. It is not too difficult to accomplish this. Most of the time, people are more concerned with themselves than with others. We can base even our smallest activities on this theory.

As an example, consider a person parking his/her motor vehicle, a car or a motor cycle. He/she is required to park the car so that it doesn't restrict anyone else's parked car, people crossing the street, or the free flow of traffic. People frequently park on the side of the road without considering the inconvenience they are causing to others.

As another example, consider an unfortunate accident where a person has been hit by a vehicle and the driver of that vehicle has fled. The person has been badly injured and requires urgent help. What would you do? Here, doing good to others would mean mitigating the injured person's suffering by ensuring that he/she gets immediate medical help.

4. **Least harm:** The least amount of harm to others must be caused by our acts is the second ethical rule to keep in mind. Even when we have the best of intentions, there are times when our actions may wind up hurting someone. In such a circumstance, we must make sure that we act in a way that harms no one else more than absolutely required.

For example: Let us consider the case of a train accident. One's duty in such an event is to help the injured passengers. He/She must get them out of the compartment; help the authorities take the injured to the hospital, and so on. On the other hand, sometimes it is seen that people use such incidents as an opportunity to steal the belongings of the injured, hapless people.

This is what doing harm is. The least good one can do in such situations is to prevent people from acting in such an unethical manner. Consider another example of a day-to-day

occurrence. In a metropolitan bus, it's common to see young people snatching up seats as soon as they become available, while an elderly person or a mother with a young child must travel standing up. If you are sitting, it is your responsibility to offer these people your seat.

If you are standing and a seat opens up, don't leap to get it by taking advantage of the person's clumsiness or slowness of movement. Permit them to take that seat. The least you can do is this. If you are standing and a seat opens up, don't leap to get it by taking advantage of the person's clumsiness or slowness of movement. Permit them to take that seat. The least you can do is this.

- 5. Autonomy:** In essence, this principle argues that we must respect the autonomy of others in their acts. We shouldn't force our opinions on other people. This idea presupposes that everyone is aware of what is best for themselves. One may also consider the situation from the viewpoint of the individual taking action, who determines that what he or she is going to do is beneficial to themselves.. One can also look at it from the point of view of the person performing the action, who decides that what he/she is going to do is good for himself/herself.

As an example, consider your own case. As a student you may have opted for a course based on your love for the subject. On the other hand, some of you may have taken up the course because your parents took the decision for you. They have invaded your autonomy to take decisions about yourself. This is a very common occurrence and many students end up pursuing a course for which they have no aptitude or do not like.

As another example consider the instance of Indian arranged weddings. Parents frequently choose a mate for their sons or daughters without considering their feelings or wants, depending on considerations like wealth or family standing. This clearly violates the individual's autonomy. The success of marriages greatly depends on securing the children's consent before having the couple married.

- 6. Non-violence or peace:** This principle has become very relevant today. Violence has now pervaded all sections of society and has become its greatest bane. A fundamental ethical precept is to abstain from violence and to oppose those who use it. No real advancement in ethical behaviour can be made until we abide by this idea.

Our greatest concern is that there is a tendency to resort to violence in cases where many other options are available. There is also a nonchalant attitude to violence among people. This is a major cause for concern.

In an incident, a person was killed by a group. The police could not even investigate the case because in the violence that spread in the aftermath of this murder, many people were killed, a large number of houses were burnt, and hundreds were injured. In this case, there was violence for no particular reason.

In one instance, a group was gathering funds for a festival, according to press coverage of the incident. A modest shopkeeper was approached by the group, who made a Rs. 1000 demand. The store owner declined to accept more than Rs. 250. The bunch used

force, assaulted him, and looted his store. It is important to keep in mind that donations are by definition optional.

However, the extortion of money in the name of religious festivals and, in case someone refuses to pay, resorting to violence and causing bodily harm have become common nowadays. As a society, we have become violence-prone and there is an urgent need to curb this to prevent further damage.

Thus, commitment to peace and non-violence is a fundamental principle of ethics. There should be a commitment to not resort to violence and explore other better options to solve a problem.

- 7. Justice:** According to the justice concept, all parties involved must be treated fairly in our acts. The fairness principle must serve as the foundation for all moral judgments. There may be instances where deviating from standard procedure is necessary. Before making a choice that differs from past decisions, all such cases must be examined and supported.

For example, consider the many development-induced displacements that make headlines in the newspapers these days. The building of a dam, the requirement of a weapon-testing ground, the need for a nuclear power plant, or the need for an expressway might necessitate displacement of a community to clear land for such a purpose.

If you take the specific case of a dam, it is a necessary part of infrastructure development as it provides water for irrigation and electric power generation. The construction of a dam is, thus, for the common good of a large section of the society. However, thousands of people are displaced from their land and their means of livelihood threatened because of such a project.

It is generally found that the rehabilitation of people affected by such projects is shoddy. They are left in the lurch at the end of the project with, in some cases, inadequate compensation and in others, no compensation, land, or means to earn a living. Here, injustice is done to the thousands affected. Similar examples can be seen in many developmental projects.

- 8. Truthfulness:** Truthfulness is the quality of telling, adhering to, or upholding the truth. This appears to be a universal principle. Truthfulness also leads to other values such as trustworthiness and honesty. Mahatma Gandhi highlighted this principle when he undertook the freedom struggle and named it Satyagraha, desire for truth.

We will seldom find an example where not telling the truth gets us any real benefit. In the Upanishads, it is said *asatoma satgamaya*, meaning 'lead me from falsehood to truth'. Truthfulness is thus a universal principle propounded by all religious texts. In engineering measurements, it is mentioned that the true value of a quantity is not known.

By making repeated measurements, we can come close to a true value called the most probable value. In real life too, there may be many instances where the truth is not known. We then accept the best possible conclusion derived from the available/perceived

facts and circumstances as the truth. This is the only way to keep one's conscience clear and remain happy.

III. GENERAL PRINCIPLES;

The following established principles can be used in the decision-making process to approach, if not entirely attain, the ideal code of morally acceptable behaviour.

- 1. Remember to respect the person's autonomy:** “Everyone has the freedom to participate actively and independently in decision-making, according to the concept of autonomy. Patients must be properly informed on the implications of their medical condition, its treatment, side effects, and outcome for this to happen. In reality, though, most kids lack the capacity to properly understand information and must rely on others for direction. The doctors' need to secure genuine informed consent, even if it is obtained through third parties, is increased, if anything, by this circumstance.”
- 2. Value the person's skills:** “Competence implies the patient's degree of comprehension that enables him or her to evaluate the moral dilemmas presented by a clinical setting, take these into account, and come to a reasoned conclusion. Young children frequently struggle with this level of comprehension, making it more important for parents and the medical staff to act as knowledgeable advocates on their behalf.
- 3. Regards to the benefit:** “The Hippocratic oath's guiding concept of "do no harm," defined by beneficence, should be followed in all circumstances.. Especially with relation to interventional treatments and medication therapy, medical practise usually requires a compromise between benefit and damage, but it should always be weighted toward "benefit." Therefore, in practise, beginning a high-risk therapy in a fully aware individual (or his/her advocate) may be completely acceptable, providing there is a realistic probability of receiving a reasonable benefit.”
- 4. Honor for the truth:** There is never a reason to intentionally mislead patients. Similar to this, there is almost never a good reason to conceal or omit information from patients.
- 5. Patient confidentiality must be respected:** Every patient has a right to privacy. However, cases where failing to report could result in greater harm to the patient may justify disclosing sensitive information without permission. (Example: physical abuse).
- 6. Avoidance of paternalism and bias:** “Practitioners should strive to remain truly objective and avoid all personal, racial, cultural, religious or other bias when counselling or treating children. Personal prejudice and preconceived ideas must never influence the provision or withholding of medical care to patients, regardless of whether they are disadvantaged, have a pre-existing disability or otherwise. The wishes of parents and guardians must also be respected, again regardless of any personal bias”.
- 7. Avoidance of all conflicts of interest:** “The patient must always come first, before any vested interest of any third party including physicians as well as the parents, guardians, extended family and society”.

- 8. Respect the limitations of medical care:** “Medical care should strive to support the patient, and should be tailored to the needs of the individual including any complications or disabilities. It is ethically appropriate to appreciate realistic goals which medical care can achieve, and wrong to aim toward exaggerated or impossible expectations. Hence, it is equally unacceptable to ‘treat at all costs’, as it is to “play god”.

IV. THE CODES OF CONDUCT

These professional ethical principles serve as the foundation for professional codes of conduct, which specify the expected standards of behaviour for members of a profession. Additionally, they make an effort to make it clear what the society and profession expect of its members. Codes of conduct are meant to define minimum requirements for behaviour that is acceptable in work environments. Alongside the country's general laws and the professional members' personal values, there are codes of conduct..

Although violations of a professional code of conduct result in professional disciplinary action, that is not the major benefit of the document. Rather, A code of conduct's main purpose is to serve as a guide for encouraging members of that profession to make moral decisions.

- 1. Professional code of conduct provide benefits to:** The general people as they increase their faith in the reliability of the profession. Customers, as they offer more clarity and assurance about how their affairs will be handled. Members of the profession serve as a support system for resisting pressure to perform appropriately and for making decisions that are acceptable in situations that may be considered "grey areas. The entire profession, as this fosters collegiality and enables more impartial disciplinary processes by providing a shared understanding of appropriate practise. Other people who interact with the profession as the profession will be perceived as more dependable and approachable.
- 2. The basic approaches to ethical behaviour; three fundamental strategies for acting ethically are suggested:**
 - **Utilitarian strategy/approach:** This strategy suggests that decisions should be made based on how they will affect the future. Therefore, people should act in a way that will benefit society most while causing the least amount of harm or expense. This method suffers from the challenge of accurately identifying all the advantages and disadvantages of each given choice. According to research, CEOs only give priority to stakeholders that have the greatest degree of power (ability to influence the company), legitimacy (legal or moral claim on company resources), and urgency (demand for urgent attention). Therefore, it is possible that just the most obvious stakeholders will be taken into account, leaving out others. Therefore, it is possible that just the most obvious stakeholders will be taken into account, leaving out others. According to research, CEOs only give priority to stakeholders that have the greatest degree of power (ability to influence the company), legitimacy (legal or moral claim on company resources), and urgency (demand for urgent attention). As a result, it is possible that only the most obvious stakeholders will be taken into account, leaving others out.
 - **Individual rights perspective approach:** This strategy suggests that all decisions should be made with regard for human beings' inherent rights. If a certain action or behaviour infringes on another person's rights, it should be avoided. The U.S.

Constitution includes a Bill of Rights that may or may not be accepted throughout the world. This approach can also encourage selfish behaviour when a person defines a personal need or want as a “right”.

- **Justice approach:** The justice approach proposes that decision makers be equitable, fair and impartial in the distribution of costs and benefits to individuals and groups. It follows the principles of distributive justice and fairness. This approach can also include redistributive justice and compensatory justice.

3. Cavanagh proposes that we can solve ethical problems by asking the following 3 questions regarding an actor decision:

- Utility- Does it optimize the satisfaction of all stakeholders?
- Rights- Does it respect the rights of the individuals involved?
- Justice- Is it consistent with the canons of justice?

4. Factors Affecting Individual Ethics; Individual ethics are determined by the following factors:

- **Family influences:** Individuals, as children, develop ethical standards if other family members engage in ethical behaviour.
- **Peer group influences:** The children, when they grow up, are influenced by the behaviour of their friends and peer group. High or low standard of ethical behaviour is likely to be followed in the same manner by the members of the peer group.
- **Life experience:** The way an individual’s behaviour is dealt with in real life situations also affects his ethics. If his behaviour (right or wrong) is reprimanded by his elders, he tends to avoid repeating it in future thinking that it is unethical and vice-versa.
- A person who speaks harshly, if, never objected to by his parents or elders, will form a habit of speaking in that manner and will feel nothing unethical about it.
- **Personal values:** Ethical standards change according to the priority accorded to different behaviours being pursued by an individual. A person who believes in the material world will have different ethical standards than the one who prioritizes religious or social norms.
- **Situational factors:** Sometimes, people are made to behave in a particular manner because of the situational factors. An honest man may resort to stealing if he is left with no other choice for meeting his financial requirements in crisis. Though wrong in content, the unethical behaviour has been adopted as warranted by situational factors.

V. ETHICAL ISSUES IN PEDIATRICS

Pediatric nurses undergo training in paediatric disorders, paediatric health care, and child development. From young infants through teens, they work with. These nurses have specialised training in assessing a child's physical and mental health. Pediatric nurses receive training in child development, child health care, and paediatric disorders. The nurse works with young children all the way up to adolescents. A child's physical and psychological well-being are examined by these nurses who have a specialisation in paediatrics. Since they frequently must resolve disputes involving a family's personal values on a professional level, the ethical challenges paediatric nurses encounter can be rather difficult at times. Lets discuss some of these which are most of the time a medical professionals faces.

- 1. Refuse immunization:** Despite facts refuting myths and supporting vaccination, a significant number of parents refuse to vaccinate their children.
- 2. Refuse seek care:** On behalf of their children, parents have the responsibility and authority to make medical decisions. This includes the freedom to reject or stop medical interventions, even ones that might be necessary for survival. The child's best interests, however, should be taken into consideration while making parental decisions.
- 3. Genetic therapy:** Gene therapy entails altering the body's basic set of instructions, which creates a number of distinctive ethical issues..
- 4. Withhold therapy vs. withdrawal of treatment:** Withholding or withdrawing from treatment can be interpreted as giving up. But when doctors, patients, and family members work well together, it can be incredibly gratifying and empowering.
- 5. Informed consent:** The most important goal of this is that the patient has an opportunity to be an informed participant in her clinical decision. The ethical issues paediatric nurses face can be quite challenging at time, as they must often professionally solve conflicts involving a family's personal values.
- 6. Coping Abilities:** If a child is recently diagnosed with a serious condition, it can be quite overwhelming for both the child and family members. A paediatric nurse has the responsibility of helping both the parents and child learn to cope with a serious illness.
- 7. A Child being rest ranged:** There are certain procedures that require paediatric nurses to restrain a child. In some situations it's absolutely necessary in order to protect their safety. For Example. If a child is in need of stitches but refuse to hold still, the child would need to be retrained for the procedure.
- 8. Refusing health care:** Given that children are minors, the client ultimately has the authority to refuse therapy for their child. Therefore, it might be difficult for a nurse to remove a kid from life support or refuse to provide a child with certain treatments that could aid in their recovery, even when the nurse believes that doing so is morally appropriate.
- 9. Religious beliefs:** Regardless of a paediatric nurse's spiritual or religious convictions, she must uphold the family's beliefs and refrain from letting her own emotions stand in the way.
- 10. Abide by reality:** Losing a child can be the most difficult thing a family will ever go through. In some cases, parents refuse to accept this, and want to perform more treatment. However, a paediatric nurse must help family members understand when there is nothing else that can be done in order to save the child.

VI. ISSUES IN PEDIATRIC NURSING

Professional registered nurses who specialise in caring for children and babies are known as paediatric nurses. A paediatric nurse must uphold ethics and always act in the client's best interests because the small children and new-borns are ill, some of whom are terminally

ill and dying. Professional registered nurses who specialise in caring for children and babies are known as paediatric nurses. A paediatric nurse must uphold ethics and always act in the client's best interests because the small children and new-borns are ill, some of whom are terminally ill and dying. Let's discuss some of the issues in below.

1. The health issues

- A problem for the nurse is that she is frequently placed in hazardous situations while working with children. Because of his workplace and the close contact he has with patients, paediatric nurses are exposed to health risks such infectious diseases.
- A paediatric nurse may suffer from musculoskeletal issues and other back pain problems as a result of carrying children and babies, as well as the potential of injury from sharp objects like needles and blades.

2. Patient Advocate

- The responsibility of a paediatric nurse is to continue to be the patient's champion. if the patient's behaviour alters either during or after treatment.
- A paediatric nurse is in charge of immediately informing the doctor of these changes. The nurse is responsible for alerting a working doctor who can give the patient with the necessary care at that time if the patient's doctor is not available for call or is not working.

3. Confidentiality

- A paediatric nurse is required to keep all patient information private and confidential.
- The paediatric nurse is not allowed to discuss the child's condition with anybody other than the patient's parents, any authorised family guardians, or patient friends.
- It is against nursing ethics to violate a patient's privacy. A lawsuit may emerge from the failure of a paediatric nurse to comply with the rules. The paediatric nurse may also face the possibility of losing his job and nursing licence in addition to a lawsuit.

4. Patient approval

- A paediatric nurse has the duty to tell the patient and the child's family of the treatment before administering any treatment, medication, or other types of medical care. The patient or the patient's family must be thoroughly informed of what is happening.
- In some cases, a patients, parents or guardian must sign a consent form, depending on the types of treatment the pediatric nurse is providing. A lawsuit for the healthcare provider and the paediatric nurse may ensue if the patient becomes ill as a result of the nurse's incomplete explanation of the manner of care.

5. Patient's best interest

- Pediatric nurses must be able to care for and console patients who are near death. A paediatric nurse may run into legal problems if she disregards the patient's or the client's parents' preferences.
- Some paediatric nurses take matters into their own hands after developing an emotional bond with patients.
- A paediatric nurse is required by law to respect the patient's requests and act in the child's best interests. A paediatric nurse who disobeys directions risks losing her job and her licence.

VII. ETHICAL DILEMMA

An ethical dilemma is one in which a person has to choose between various options, both of which are morally correct but in conflict. The nurse must make a choice between two alternatives that are equally unsatisfactory. They both deal with questions of right and wrong. Such dilemmas may occur as a result of differences in cultural or religious beliefs.

VIII. EXAMPLES OF NURSING ETHICAL DILEMMAS

- 1. Unsuitable medication orders:** Patients should not be given the improper medications or dosages, as this could result in death. When nurses must object to a doctor's medicine order, they may be faced with an ethical conundrum.
- 2. Docs who are not responsive:** In circumstances outside of their field of practise, such as medical emergencies, nurses frequently have to consult physicians. If the doctor doesn't intervene and her patient's condition worsens, the nurse is faced with an ethical conundrum.
- 3. Life-risking patient choices:** Patients occasionally make risky decisions, such as declining to receive treatment for a new born, medication, or a life-saving procedure. The paediatric nurse is faced with an ethical conundrum since failing to provide the necessary care goes against beneficence while doing so disregards human autonomy.

IX. HOW TO CONTROL ETHICAL CONFLICTS

1. Instructions

- Think about your personal motivations and try to separate them from your choice. If you are debating whether to notify your friend's husband that she is having an affair, your gut reaction might be to stay silent rather than risk losing their friendship. Remove your personal emotions from the situation and concentrate on the effects on the persons concerned.
- Think about your moral compass. You need a strong moral sensibility if you're thinking about ethical matters. Asking yourself what is right will help you determine if the situation can be resolved more easily.

X. PEDIATRIC CODE OF ETHICS

Pediatricians are medical professionals that focus on treating babies and young children. They are valued and dependable community members. According to the American Medical Association, the code of medical ethics for doctors comprises "Standards of conduct that define honourable behaviour."

- 1. The patient care:** The AMA's principles of medical ethics state that doctors should be committed to providing high-quality medical treatment and watch out for their patients' rights and dignity. They should also advocate universal access to healthcare and be accountable for any patient who is under their care.
- 2. Patient confidentiality:** Physicians should preserve patient privacy and confidentiality as well as the rights of their co-workers in the medical field.

3. **Community involvement:** According to the AMA, doctors have a duty to get involved in their society by taking part in initiatives that advance public health.
4. **Research:** It is necessary for doctors to continue learning new medical information. They ought to provide patients and other medical professionals with pertinent medical information.
5. **The law:** In accordance with medical ethical standards, doctors must uphold the law when treating patients, but they must also work to alter it if doing so will benefit the patient.

The following are the skills required to face such situations, and take actions that ensure peace of mind and a clear conscience:

- Develop skills to identify problems of a moral nature in professional work. A problem may have many dimensions but recognizing the moral aspects of the problem and relating these to other dimensions of the problem is important. The moral values one has imbibed during childhood, and in school and college has a bearing on this.
- Develop the ability to critically analyse a moral issue or situation. Where the action to be taken is clear and one does not face any conflict, the situation is simple. However in moral issues, very often, we face conflicts and it may be necessary to look at the pros and cons of the action options to decide correctly what is to be done.
- Develop sensitivity to genuine difficulties. Some moral issues may call for taking actions, which at first sight may go against some moral principles held by the individual as sacrosanct. In such cases, some flexibility in thinking and taking decisions for the overall good of the people concerned may be called for.
- Develop ingenuity, creativity, and imagination to find alternative solutions to complex problems. Many problems do create situations that call for out-of-the-ordinary solutions. A true professional will develop creative solutions to such complex problems by a critical analysis of all factors and by imaginative understanding of the alternatives possible.
- Develop consistency in thinking on moral issues. Consistency comes from knowledge and understanding of similar situations and comparison of facts in a given situation with those of others.
- Develop the ability to express your perception on moral issues clearly to others. This will enable others to appreciate the rationale behind any actions proposed in a given moral issue. An understanding of ethical principles and theories will enable one to make a comprehensive expression of one's views.
- Develop moral integrity and credibility. This can be strengthened in your actions in all spheres of life, whether it is professional or personal. Consistency in moral standpoint of the individual in all spheres gives credence to his/her views on moral issues.
- Develop tolerance and try to understand other people's views on moral conflicts. Moral issues, very often, are not simple enough to generate an algorithmic solution. People who think rationally may come out with differing perspectives of the problem. One must develop the ability to appreciate differing but rational points of view.
- Develop the ability to assimilate moral issues and solutions even in cases where you are not directly concerned. A general interest in moral concerns and issues, even in other professions, may be of help in one's own profession. Keep track of moral issues and solutions and try to form your own opinions in such cases.

- Develop your own moral standards or benchmarks for applying to situations that you may face. Over a period of time, this will help you in creating a yardstick for judging many situations.

Guidelines for Ethical Behaviour; Though each individual or group has his own sets of ethical values, a few guidelines have been prescribed to be followed:

- Obey the Law – Obeying the legal practices prevalent in a country is conforming to the ethical values.
- Tell the Truth – Disclosing the fair accounting results to the concerned parties and telling the truth is also an ethical behaviour on the part of managers.
- Respect for People – Management ethics requires managers to show respect towards whomsoever he comes in contact with.
- The Golden Rule – The golden business principle is “Treat others as you would want to be treated”. This, if followed, will always result in ethical behaviour.
- Above All, Do No Harm – Even if law does not prohibit the use of chemicals in producing certain products, managers must avoid using them if their use happens to be an environmental pollutant.
- Practice Participation – Not Paternalism – Managers should not decide on their own as to what is good or bad for the different stakeholders. They must assess their needs, analyse them in the light of business needs, and integrate the two needs by allowing the various stakeholders to participate in the decision-making processes.

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