

Assessment 1: Applying Ethical Principles

Student Name

Capella University

Course Name

Prof Name

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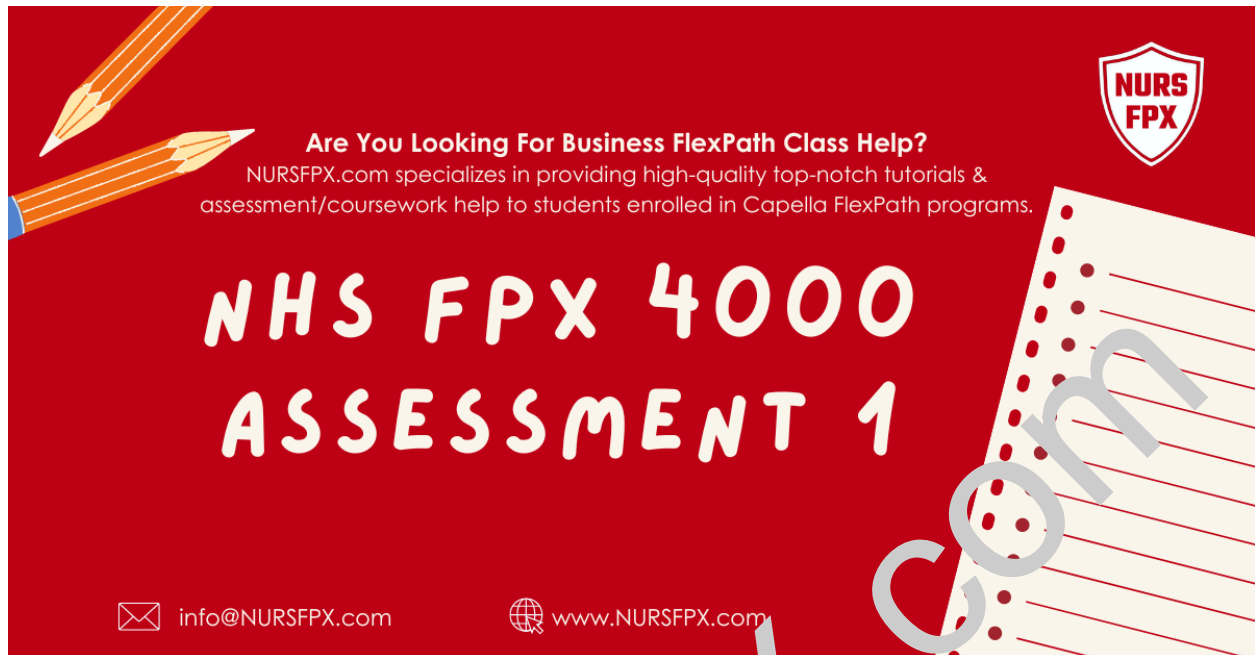
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Exploring Ethical Guidelines

Healthcare professionals frequently encounter ethical dilemmas that necessitate decisions grounded in moral principles. Autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice serve as fundamental values guiding practitioners in making ethically sound judgments. The notion of *prima facie*, introduced by philosopher W.D. Ross, suggests that moral principles retain validity unless conflicting with others, thus requiring careful consideration (Othman & Hamid, 2018).

Case Study Overview

E.L. Straight, newly appointed as the head of medical practitioners, has instituted various policies to enhance patient care. Despite achieving positive results, senior staff surgeons at Hopewell remain unimpressed. E.L. Straight faces an ethical dilemma when Dr. Cutrite unintentionally leaves a needle protector inside a patient during surgery, downplaying its significance. This incident raises concerns about the conflict between the hospital's interests and patient well-being (NURS FPX4000 Assessment 1: Navigating Ethical Principles).

Ethical Analysis of the Case

E.L. Straight grapples with the ethical challenge of balancing the hospital's reputation with the patient's welfare. Despite encountering resistance from other medical personnel, E.L. Straight prioritizes the patient's health and views the situation as unethical (Darr et al., 2017).

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Ethical Principles in Action

The International Patient Decision Aid Standards (IPDAS) serve as a framework for evaluating primary and secondary outcomes in decision-making within geriatric care, offering insights into addressing grievances and proposing remedies for the elderly (Stacey et al., 2018).

The decision-making model in medical practice comprises moral awareness, moral judgment, and ethical behavior. Moral awareness assesses actions based on their overall consequences, while moral judgment underscores patient involvement in care planning. Ethical behavior evaluates a situation's adherence to laws and fairness to determine its ethical standing (Doherty, 2020; Price & Cohen, 2019).

In E.L. Straight's case, an ethical dilemma arises from the conflicting principles of non-maleficence and justice, emphasizing the need to prioritize patient health (Morley et al., 2020).

Effective Communication

Effective communication plays a pivotal role in resolving ethical dilemmas. While the nurse supervisor effectively communicated the surgical error, breakdowns in communication within the hospital hierarchy and Dr. Cutrite's reluctance highlight deficiencies in communication skills (Stacey et al., 2018; Doherty, 2020).

Strategies for Resolution

To tackle the ethical dilemma, healthcare organizations such as UNICEF or WHO could be engaged to align actions with ethical standards and regulations (Morley et al., 2020).

Conclusion

Ethical decision-making in healthcare relies on principles such as autonomy, beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice. E.L. Straight's predicament underscores the significance of adhering to these principles to navigate the tension between patient rights and the hospital's reputation (Doherty, 2020).

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