

Domain 1: Professional responsibility

Competency 1.1: Accepts responsibility for ensuring that his/her nursing practice and conduct meet the standards of the professional, ethical and relevant legislated requirements.

Identify one professional, one ethical and one legislated requirement most relevant to your area of practice and describe how you ensure that nursing practice and conduct meets each of them and how you assisted a colleague to comply with one of these requirements.

Consider what legislation, codes, guidelines or policies relate to your practice? How do these documents guide and impact on how you practice? Reading them is insufficient evidence, evidence of putting them into practice is required. What specific advice or education have you given to a colleague?

To demonstrate that practice is evidence based, to acknowledge sources of information and to demonstrate you have knowledge of documents that have implications for practice (NCNZ, 2007, p.9): It is expected you will name these when you are referring to them. (NCNZ, 2007, 2012b).

Reference List:

- Health and Disability Commissioner. (1996). *Code of Health and Disability Services Code of Rights*. Retrieved from www.hdc.org.nz/the-act-code/the-code-of-rights
- Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2007). *Competencies for registered nurses*. Wellington: Author. Retrieved from www.nursingcouncil.org.nz
- Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2012a). *Code of Conduct*. Wellington: Author.
- Nursing Council of New Zealand. (2012b). *Competencies for enrolled nurses*. Wellington: Author.
- Privacy Commissioner. (1994). *Quick tour of the Health Information Privacy Code*. Retrieved from www.privacy.org.nz/assets/Files/Brochures-and-pamphlets-and-pubs/Quick-Tour-of-the-Health-Information-Privacy-Principles.doc

Acknowledgement:

Pamphlet Author: K.M.Fraser. RN. MN.
Nurse Coordinator: Professional Development and Recognition Programme (PDRP).
Email: kathryn.fraser@midcentraldhb.govt.nz

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Professional Development and Recognition Programme (PDRP)

Domain 1: Professional responsibility

A series of pamphlets to assist nurses with writing examples of practice in their professional portfolios.



Legislation

Professional

Ethics

Medicines Act (1981)

The Medicines Act is to regulate medicines, related products and medical devices in New Zealand. The Act ensures the medicines and products used in New Zealand are safe and effective.

Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act (2003)

The Act is to protect the health and safety of the members of public and provides mechanisms to ensure all health practitioners are competent and fit to practice.

Various councils are appointed and become responsible for professionals under their mandate.

Health and Disability Commissioners Act (1994)

The Act is to promote and protect the rights of consumers and to facilitate fair, simple, speedy and efficient resolution of complaints.

The Act mandates and regulates what people's rights are when receiving treatment through health and disability services.

Privacy Act (1993)

Controls how agencies collect, use, disclose, store, destroy and give access to 'personal information'.

At the heart of the Privacy Act are 12 privacy principles to guide health practitioners.

The Health Information Privacy Code has a set of 12 rules that guides and regulates the management of health information. These are based on the privacy principles to ensure individuals are not actually, or potentially harmed.

Organisation

Policies/guidelines/protocols/standing orders and procedures will all have their foundation in legislation, research, evidence based practice and standards for the profession.

Nursing Council of New Zealand (NCNZ)

Is appointed under the HPCA 2003 as the governing body for nurses. www.nursingcouncil.org.nz

NCNZ publish documents to support standards of practice in the profession

- Code of Conduct
- Guidelines of Professional Boundaries
- Guidelines for Social Media
- Guidelines for Cultural Safety
- Direction and Delegation

NCNZ Roles and Responsibilities

- Maintain the register of nurses
- Issue annual practicing certificates
- Monitor continuing competence and fitness to practice
- Set standards of practice and education

Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers Rights (1996)

Every person has rights when receiving health and/or disability services and for these to be enforced.

The code sets out ten rights – each right imposes a corresponding legal duty of care on health care providers. Sometimes referred to as the "Code of Consumers Rights", or simply "Code of Rights".

www.hdc.org.nz/the-act-code/the-code-of-rights.

Health Information Privacy Code (1994)

Provides a set of twelve rules for patient information collection, unique identifier, accuracy, storage and security, access, sharing and limits.

Failure to comply with the rules can result in severe legal penalties for the individual and/or organisation breaching the principles.

New Zealand Nurses Organisation, (2010).

Code of Ethics.

Wellington: Author.

www.nzno.org.nz

The Code of Ethics document assists nurses with problem solving and decision making to guide practice in the clinical context of ethical dilemmas and situations where they are challenged in the complexity of the professional environment.

Please Note:

The Nursing Council Code of Conduct is **NOT** a Code of Ethics – it does not seek to describe ethical values of the profession or to provide specific advice on ethical issues, ethical frameworks or ethical decision making (NCNZ, 2012a, p.3).

The Code of Conduct is the professional document and gives a set of standards defined by the NCNZ describing the behaviour or conduct for the nursing profession and compliments the legal obligations nurses have under various acts of parliament.

The Code of Rights is based on the central right of health care consumers to be empowered to make fully informed choices when treatment options are explored with health practitioners.

Ethical Principals Apply to:

- “Right to care”
- “Right to information”
- “Right to be informed”