

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
FINAL EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2015

COURSE NAME: ETHICAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF MENTAL HEALTH NURSING

COURSE CODE: CMH411

TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

TOTAL MARKS: 75

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
- 1. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS**
 - 2. EACH QUESTION IS WORTH 25 MARKS**

DO NOT OPEN THE EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION TO DO SO HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE INVIGILATOR

Question 1

- a) Mr. Mzila, 45-year-old, has been receiving dialysis three times a week for the past 8 months because of kidney failure. Efforts to get an organ donor have failed. Two months ago his medical scheme informed him that he has used up all his money for treatment. The hospital is now telling him that the dialysis will be stopped because it is too expensive and he is depriving other patients, with better chances of recovery, of needed resources for their care
 - i) What ethical theory, with justification, is at play in this scenario? (4)
 - ii) Do you consider the hospital's approach to handling Mr. Mzila's illness proper? (6)
- b) Baby Zinhle was born 2 weeks ago with multiple birth defects which doctors considered, on scientific evidence, would inevitably cause her death. The doctors made a decision not to perform corrective surgery for some of the defects because they foresaw the baby's misery and painful life would persist as she would not benefit in the long run from any form of corrective surgery.

Using the ethical theories of deontology and divine command, how would you, as a nurse, handle the case of baby Zinhle? (15)

TOTAL = 25

Question 2

The issue of "rights" is pertinent to health care and nursing care in general. Discuss rights you have to accord patients with mental health problems as a mental health nurse. (25)

TOTAL = 25

Question 3

Match the phrases in column A with the correct meaning in Column B., e.g., X = 55. Meanings in Column B may be used more than once.

Column A	Column B
A. Seeks to compensate victims for injuries suffered by culpable action or inaction of others.	1. Autonomy
B. Treatment method that controls behaviour by changing emotions	2. Non-maleficence
C. Health care resources are allocated so that the best is done for the greatest number of people	3. Invasion of privacy
D. Treatment modality considered dehumanizing because it makes the patient adopt someone else's values and beliefs	4. Standards of practice

E. The duty of the health care provider to be truthful and avoid deception	5. Privacy
F. The duty of the health care provider to be truthful and avoid deception	6. Empathy
G. Distributing access, benefits and risks of health care fairly and equitably	7. Values
H. Answering a patient's questions honestly	8. Norms
I. Utilising the principle of triage due to limited resources in the ward	9. Morals
J. The duty to respect privileged information	10. Ethics
K. The condition of limited access to a person	11. Negligence
L. You should not harm your patient	12. Code of conduct
M. Informed consent promotes this	13. Veracity
N. An example of an intentional tort.	14. Fidelity
O. Executing duties associated with the nurse's particular role	15. Justice
P. The word most closely associated with the ethic of caring	16. Tort law
Q. Being answerable for one's own actions	17.
R. Benchmarks you have to achieve as a professional nurse	18. Distributive justice
S. Principles that influence decision-making based on culture, religion, education and experience	19. Confidentiality
T. The right of the competent person to choose a plan of life or action	20. Psychotherapy
U. Conduct that is a departure from that expected of a prudent person	21. Accountability
V. Personal conviction that something is absolutely right or wrong in all situations	22. Psychopharmacology
W. To respect the decision of the client	23. Responsibility
X. Conduct that falls below standards of behavior established by law for the protection of others	
Y. First do no harm	