

Multiple Choice & True/False Questions

CHAPTER 1

Multiple Choice

1. The nurse is preparing medications for an assigned client in the medication room and another nurse states, "It would be a lot faster for you if you just opened all the pills now and then bring the pills to the patients. That's how we always do it, so we finish on time." Which action would be most appropriate for the nurse to take?

- a. Report the other nurse for preparing medications in an illegal manner.
- b. Ask the other nurse if an error has ever been made when preparing medications that way.
- c. Consider the suggestion by the nurse because this is a clear example of virtue ethics and the nurse should try to finish the work the most efficient way.
- d. Understand that this is an example of authority-based theory and avoid taking the short-cut because it can lead to medication errors.

Ans: D

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Ethics and Healthcare

2. The nurse is working a 12-hour day shift, it is now 2pm and the nurse has only had a 10-minute break at 9am, and has not had time to use the bathroom at all. The call bell rings from a patient who is asking for more prescribed pain medicine that is not scheduled to be given for at least 15 more minutes. Which action, if taken by the nurse, would demonstrate egoistic theory?

- a. Quickly using the bathroom first, then going see the patient and explaining that the pain medication cannot be given right now.
- b. Preparing the patient's medication before using the bathroom, so the medicine can be administered as soon as it is time.
- c. Explaining to the patient that the medication is not due at this time, that you will be taking a short break and when you return you will give the patient the medicine.
- d. Calling the prescribing doctor to request a change in the frequency, so you can administer the medication now and then take a break.

Ans: A

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Ethics and Healthcare

3. Which of the following is true regarding ethical egoism in healthcare?

- a. This theory is religion-based.
- b. This theory does not relate to patient-centered care.
- c. Ethical egoism can be considered positive or negative depending on the culture involved.
- d. Ethical egoism should be considered when discussing a patient's living will with the patient's power of attorney for healthcare.

Ans: B

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Egoism

4. A patient who is Jehovah witness and refuses a blood-transfusion to save their life would fall under which ethics theory?

- a. virtue
- b. egoism
- c. authority-based
- d. natural law

Ans: C

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Authority-Based Ethics Theories

5. The nurse is caring for a patient on the mental health unit who was admitted with severe depression and has a history of suicide attempts. The patient suddenly states, "You cannot keep me from killing myself, I will do it when you are not looking." Which action would demonstrate appropriate use of autonomy and be a priority for the nurse to take?

- a. Immediately assign a one-to-one for the patient and then notify the doctor.
- b. Place the patient in four-point restraints and document the patient's statement.
- c. Administer a prescribed sedative to the patient.
- d. Stay with the patient and ask the patient if he/she has a plan.

Ans: A

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Principles of Biomedical Ethics as Virtues

6. Assisted suicide is an ethical dilemma that would mostly relate to which theory?

- a. authority-based
- b. egoism
- c. virtue
- d. natural law

Ans: D

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Natural Law

7. Which of the following is the major difference between teleological theories and deontological theories?

- a. Deontological theories originated from the Greek and teleological theories are influenced by the Catholic Church.
- b. Teleological theory believes the outcome of our actions should help determine what is right and deontological theories argues that consequences are not relevant to deciding between right and wrong.
- c. Teleological theory is also known as utilitarianism and deontological theory has no other name.
- d. Deontological theory is based on bringing out the best of every situation and teleological theory is based on finding our duties by deciding what is right which does not always end up improving a situation.

Ans: B
 Complexity: Difficult
 Ahead: Ethics and Healthcare

8. Which of the following healthcare workers is demonstrating teleological theory while making an unethical decision?
- The respiratory therapist used latex materials on a patient wearing an allergy bracelet that is labeled, "latex" and then cuts the bracelet off and hides it when the patient has a mild reaction.
 - The environmental service staff labeled an empty patient's room as "clean", even though he/she knows that the bed and bathroom were never wiped down properly.
 - The doctor told the female patient he/she was sure she would not lose any of her hair during her chemotherapy treatment, even though he/she prescribed chemotherapy that lists alopecia (hair loss) as a major side effect.
 - The registered nurse (RN) steals narcotics from the stock cart rather than taking the patient's dose and giving the patient a placebo or lower dose.

Ans: D
 Complexity: Moderate
 Ahead: Ethics and Healthcare

9. Which of the following accurately compares virtue ethics and egoistic theories?
- Aristotle was the founder of both theories.
 - Both theories involve self-actualization.
 - The goal for both theories is doing the right thing for the right reasons.
 - Both theories are used in training to help produce ethical professionals.

Ans: B
 Complexity: Difficult
 Ahead: Ethics and Healthcare

10. Which situation would be most appropriate for the nurse to apply the theory of double effect?
- Completing documentation before end of shift.
 - Medicating a terminally-ill client with morphine.
 - Setting a meal tray for a client who is in a long-arm cast.
 - Review laboratory results with primary healthcare provider.

Ans: B
 Complexity: Difficult
 Ahead: Principle of Double Effect

11. Which of the following did Kant determine is essential for ethics?

- A) intuition
- B) values
- C) free will
- D) empathy

Ans: C

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Kant's Metaphysics and Epistemology Grounded His Ethics

12. Kant suggested that which of the following is the true test of good will?

- A) the person's intention of the will
- B) the person continues to act out of duty
- C) the person's relationship to the will
- D) the person has moral virtue

Ans: B

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Freedom of the Will

13. Which of the following statements made by the nurse following a medication error indicates the nurse is acting as an autonomous agent?

- A) "If the healthcare provider used legible handwriting, the medication would not have been given."
- B) "There are too many patients who have multiple medications due at the same time."
- C) "The pharmacist should have doubled check the prescriptions."
- D) "I understand that the actions I took contributed to the incident."

Ans: D

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Reason, Autonomy, the Moral Law, and the Will

14. The second version of the categorical imperative emphasizes which of the following?

- A) people are a means to an end

- B) duty to respect every person
- C) people are irrational in the natural world
- D) treat each person the same

Ans: B

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: The Categorical Imperative as Respect for Persons

15. Which action by the nurse manager demonstrates Kant's interpretation of the Golden Rule?

- A) allowing the same staff members to take vacation at holidays
- B) rotating the staff to work the same number of weekends a month
- C) assigning the unit duties and responsibilities based on seniority
- D) permitting certain staff members to take an in-service at their discretion

Ans: B

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: The Categorical Imperative and the Golden Rule

16. For an act to have moral worth, the person must

- A) have emotional inclinations to the act.
- B) be driven by desires to act morally.
- C) act from duty to moral law.
- D) require a self-interest in the act.

Ans: C

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: The Categorical Imperative and the Golden Rule

17. Which statement made by the nurse indicates a deontologist view of duty?

- A) "I am taking courses to get an advanced degree to promote my career."
- B) "Collaborating with other clinical professionals creates a positive environment."
- C) "Attending meetings with administrators lets me understand the needs of the organization."
- D) "Decisions that I make are focused on maximizing the benefits of my patients."

Ans: D

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Virtue Ethics and Kant's Moral Law

18. Which situation would the healthcare team have to apply the best interests standard?
- A) The patient who is alert and oriented and is refusing hemodialysis.
 - B) The patient who requires continued care at home and lives with several family members.
 - C) The patient who is unconscious and requires emergent surgery.
 - D) The patient who is requesting further information about prescribed medication.

Ans: C

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: The Original Position and the Veil of Ignorance

True/False

1. True or False? The purpose of ethics theories is to act as a guide for people involved in dilemmas to make good decisions about the situation.

Ans: True

Complexity: Easy

Ahead: Ethical Relativism

2. True or False? The theory of double effect assumes that the bad effect is a means to the good effect.

Ans: False

Complexity: Easy

Ahead: Principle of Double Effect

Subject: Chapter 1

CHAPTER 2

Multiple Choice

1. Which of the following is true regarding the debate over the definition of harm in the clinical setting when referring to nonmaleficence?

- a. Harm cannot be defined as just physical.
- b. Any act that prevents a patient from overcoming illness is considered harm.
- c. The term negligence is used instead of harm because the term harm can have too many
- d. interpretations.
- e. Harm can be defined too many ways and has to be taken into consideration on an individual basis.

Ans: A

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Nonmaleficence

2. Which of the following is true regarding the difference between omission and commission?

- a. Omission and commission are the same except commission involves more than one person.
- b. Commission would be a nurse giving a patient too much morphine on purpose and the patient dies and omission would be withholding morphine from the patient and the patient experiences severe pain.
- c. Omission is the same as malpractice and commission is the same as negligence.
- d. Commission refers to a financial maleficence where omission refers to a clinical maleficence in which a patient suffers injury.

Ans: B

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Harm as Negligence

3. Which of the following is true regarding the difference between ethics in the healthcare field and ethics in the corporate world?

- a. In the corporate world ethical issues do not involve harm to a person.
- b. Ethical issues are not discussed by a committee in the corporate world but rather the chief executive officer (CEO) of the corporation and whoever else is involved in the situation.
- c. The foundation of all ethical issues in the healthcare field is to do no harm.
- d. Ethical decisions are handled the same in both health care and the corporate world, but in health care there are more sacrifices made for the greater good.

Ans: C

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Harm as Negligence

4. The doctor in the emergency room pronounced a patient dead and stopped cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) efforts after talking with the patient's spouse who said, "My spouse would not want this, please let my spouse be in peace." The doctors action is justified by which of the following?

- a. reasonable person decision
- b. best interest
- c. substituted judgment
- d. autonomy

Ans: C

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Harm as Negligence

5. The doctor diagnosed a patient with lung cancer and stated, "I need you to come back tomorrow and have a port-a-cath placed, so we can start chemotherapy right away." Which of the following responses, if made by the the patient, would classify how paternalism has changed since 2010 with the ACA?

- a. "I would like to think about my options and consider alternative therapies first."
- b. "Will I need to have radiation after the chemotherapy?"
- c. "I cannot come back tomorrow, but I can return the day after tomorrow."
- d. "I will return tomorrow and do exactly as you recommend."

Ans: A

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Nonmaleficence and Beneficence Are Insufficient Principles

6. The nurse caring for a patient was asked by the hospital chaplain if the chaplain could pray with the patient. The nurse saw, "no religious affiliation" on the admission form of the patient's medical record and told the chaplain not to pray with the patient. Which of the following has the nurse violated?

- a. competence
- b. beneficence
- c. confidentiality
- d. autonomy

Ans: D

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Autonomy

7. Which of the following might demonstrate a competent patient who is being coerced?

- a. The older sibling of a 5-year-old child is asked by the parents to donate bone marrow to save the 5-year-old's life because the older sibling is the only match.
- b. The adult child of an 89-year-old patient refuses to take the patient off of life support even though the patient's wishes are for the child to do so.

- c. The mother of a patient is donating a kidney to the patient who has diabetes and kidney failure.
- d. The father of a toddler explains to the doctor how the toddler fell down the stairs and broke the left arm.

Ans: A

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Autonomy in Health Care

8. The nurse is caring for 2 male patients who have a broken limb. Both patients requested more pain medicine. The first patient asked, "Please could you call the doctor I am in so much pain?" The second patient asked, "Why are you letting me suffer, can't you do something for me?" The nurse called the doctor and medicated the first patient, the second patient received medication when the next scheduled dose was due. The action by the nurse should be classified as which of the following?

- a. autonomy
- b. procedural injustice
- c. negative rights
- d. nonmaleficence

Ans: B

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Theories of Justice

9. Which of the following is true when comparing distributive and procedural justice?
- a. Both are related to a person being treated unfairly.
 - b. Both involve the legal system.
 - c. Need is the primary basis for determining if either justice was implemented fairly.
 - d. A healthcare worker can choose to ignore either justice if there is a good reason to discriminate.

Ans: A

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Theories of Justice

10. Which of the following demonstrates distributive justice based on need?

- a. The last unit of blood that is universal donor type was given to a baby instead of an older adult with dementia.
- b. A patient with a history of drug abuse received a higher dose of pain medicine than the patient with a mental health disorder.
- c. The patient who has not missed any physical therapy appointments was not charged for a follow-up X-ray and the patient who missed half of the appointments was charged.

- d. The doctor spent 15 minutes with the patient seen just before lunch and spent 30 minutes with the patient seen after the lunch break.

Ans: A

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Theories of Justice

11. Maslow's hierarchy of basic needs can best be categorized as which of the following?

- a. positive rights
- b. substance rights
- c. negative rights
- d. process rights

Ans: B

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Distributive Justice and Rights

12. The nurse working at the hospital was yelled at by a doctor after accidentally giving the wrong dose of insulin to an assigned patient. The nurse stated to the doctor, "You have no right to treat me that way and I am going to report your behavior to my supervisor and yours." The statement by the nurse can best be justified by which of the following?

- a. positive rights
- b. process rights
- c. negative rights
- d. natural rights

Ans: C

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Ways of Categorizing Rights

13. A patient's mother was in the elevator at the hospital with two nurses and overheard the nurses talking about a patient's diagnosis and care. The mother recognized that the nurses were discussing her child and stated, "You nurses should not be talking like this in the elevator, that is my child you are talking about. I should sue you both for violating my child's confidentiality." The statement by the mother can be justified by which of the following?

- a. process rights
- b. negative rights
- c. ideal rights
- d. substance rights

Ans: A

Complexity: Difficult

Ahead: Ways of Categorizing Rights

14. The nurse is caring for a patient who had an indwelling urethral catheter removed 24-hours ago and has been urinating without difficulty. The patient reports feeling like the bladder is full but cannot void. The nurse scanned the patient's bladder finding 525 mls of urine present and inserts a straight catheter to empty the bladder. The actions by the nurse demonstrate which of the following?

- a. process rights
- b. autonomy
- c. procedural injustice
- d. malpractice

Ans: B

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Autonomy

15. The nurse at a local restaurant helped an older adult female using a walker by opening the bathroom door for her and noticed she was wearing flip flops. The female stated, "My feet are so cold but this is all I have. I need to get a space heater because my house does not have heat. I wish I had really warm slippers." The nurse approached the female later with a pair of new slippers. Which of the following has the nurse demonstrated?

- a. beneficence
- b. eudaimonia
- c. ethical intuition
- d. distributive justice

Ans: A

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Beneficence

16. Which of the following applies to beneficence?

- a. Reasonable people practice beneficence everyday.
- b. People who practice beneficence own their lives.
- c. Those who practice beneficence are people of practical wisdom.
- d. Beneficence is typically a personality trait in health care professionals.

Ans: D

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Beneficence

17. Which of the following applies to maintaining a healthcare system based on ethics?

- a. nonmaleficence
- b. natural rights

- c. distributive justice
- d. reflective equilibrium model

Ans: C

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Distributive Justice

18. The mission statement of an organization would apply to which of the following?

- a. ideal rights
- b. considered judgments
- c. process rights
- d. procedural justice

Ans: A

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Ways of Categorizing Rights

19. The reflective equilibrium model best applies to which of the following?

- a. rights
- b. justice
- c. nonmaleficence, autonomy and beneficence
- d. both theories and principles of ethics

Ans: D

Complexity: Moderate

Ahead: Reflective Equilibrium as a Decision-Making Model

True/False

1. True or False? Health care is a substance right that may or may not be a legal right?

Ans: True

Complexity: Easy

Ahead: Substance Rights