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NAME OF STUDENT

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Module 1 – Assessment 3

For your assessment: Write 400 words on an issue of safety or of legal responsibility that you explored in some depth, ensuring it is specifically related to the specialty area.

There are many responsibilities that nurses have to deal with, on such responsibility being to ensure that the patients are receiving the right medication. However, the responsibility is not just limited to the right medication but it is also associated with the fact that the right medication might not be the best for the patient. The patients could be suffering from an ailment or condition that prohibits them from taking the medication and they might not even be aware of it (Kemppainen, et al., 2013). It falls under the responsibility of the nursing staff to ensure that they learn all about the patients and ensure that a medication that could cause side effects is not given to them. Additionally, the nurses also need to be aware whether the food that is being given to the patient is adequate or not. It implies that the food must be prepared in a manner that the condition of the patients does not get worse. Nurses also have the responsibility to assuage the fears of the patients (Kemppainen, et al., 2013). One of the effects that is commonly seen among patients, especially those that are staying for a long time is that they tend to get annoyed and restless. The nursing staff is responsible for keeping them calm and ensuring that they do not commit any actions that might exasperate the condition. Furthermore, patients usually complain about food not just the quality of the food but even those that are not allowed to have anything but IV fluids. The nurses are responsible for ensuring that they do not get disheartened or anxious and instead see this as a small step towards full recovery (Kemppainen, et al., 2013). One of the reasons that the responsibilities on nurses extend far beyond the normal paradigm and the policies, guidelines and instructions of the hospital is that they interact with patients the most

and are responsible for maintaining their morale in a difficult time while at the same time ensuring that the instructions of the physician and doctors are followed. The nurses are responsible for warning the patients and letting them know the consequences of what could happen if the advice of the nurses and doctors is not followed while ensuring that they adhere to the advice.

Module 2 – Assessment 3

For your assessment: Write 400 words on your understanding of the dilemma of providing information to carers while considering the confidentiality concerns relating to the patient/client. Don't forget to consider the ethical implications in your consideration of the issues.

One of the prime concerns of patients is how much information should they reveal to their carers about themselves. While it is understood that it would be better for the patients if they were to be open with their carers regarding every information trivial or significant but the fear of the information being divulged to unwanted sources abtains the patients from doing so.

Additionally, there are also patients that believe that some information is important and only reveal a little. However, it should be realized that information may be trivial or significant but still go a long way in being useful in treating the patient or helping in easing their pain. The issue of confidentiality is one that is central to the medical profession and is not just limited to doctors. The nursing staff are an integral part of the hospital and more often than not they are the ones that interact with the patients the most. However, the nursing staff also face another difficult task regarding the confidentiality of the patient. (Millar & Erickson, 2005) The nurses are often asked by the family of the patients for information but it places a dilemma for the nurses as on the one

hand their morality compels them to divulge information but on the other hand, their ethics compel them to not disclose any information (Millar & Erickson, 2005). However, the patients too are curious about who their carers are and other relevant information regarding them. Thus, the nursing staff is compelled to face the issue of confidentiality on two fronts: regarding patient's confidentiality and carers confidentiality. On the first front, there are numerous laws and policies that help in regulation of information but on the second front there are no laws. Additionally, nurses need to gain the trust of the patients to acquire information on them to provide better care but not wanting to divulge information regarding the carer (Millar & Erickson, 2005). Ethically, the confidentiality of the patient should not be compromised and steps are taken to ensure that it does not happen. Some of the hospitals even scratch or remove the name from medications and IV bottles before disposal. However, the status of the confidentiality pertaining to carers is still not clarified with the only solution being not divulging any information that the carers do not want to reveal.

Module 3 – Assessment 3

Review and refine your reflection from the activity for this module to a 400-word paragraph.

The medical profession and environment is a mixture of various aspects that impact the reaction and behaviour of individuals. From my personal experience, there are those that remain at ease in the medical environment and handle any situation without hassle while there are others that do not know how to deal with the situation as they are out of their comfort zone while those that act out and regress. I have mostly interacted with the first kind but have met a few that have not been good at handling their illness. However, there have been those individuals as well that have been

learnt something from their plight and have been able to use to it to their advantage. My interaction with them has also left an impact on me. One of the most important life lessons that I have learnt has been to act calmly if a situation seems out of one's control. Even if I am not able to abide by it every time, I still try as it provides me a sense of clarity to make decisions only after evaluating every possible avenue. Another thing that I have been able to learn from the experience has been on how to face dilemmas. The medical field despite being governed and regulated by numerous laws, policies and guidelines still poses numerous dilemma of assorted degree. My understanding of ethics has certainly increased along with my experience while at the same time I have become more attuned to understanding the plight of patients but maintaining my distance. I also came across a video interview of a student such as I that had an interesting perspective on learning from patients (CBS News, 2013). The study was insightful as it reaffirmed some of the lessons I have learned from patients and their experiences. However, she presented it from a medical point of view of observing to find symptoms. The experiences I have gained and would be gaining in the future has made me better prepared for the profession but it is not only the area where the knowledge that I have gained would be useful as I have also applied the knowledge I have gained in other fields of life. To my surprise and delight, those concepts have been most useful and helpful for and has helped me grow in a holistic manner both on a personal level and as a professional in the medical field.

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