

The Code of Ethics for Kosovo Chamber of nurses, midwives and other health professionals

Article 1

Introduction

This Code of Ethics for Nurses, Midwives, and Other Health Professionals determines the basic principles of professional conduct, patient relationships, working with a healthcare team, respecting professional secrecy, continuing professional education, protecting patients from risk, the responsibilities regarding ethical issues and relationships with Nurses, Midwives, and other Health Professionals.

Article 2

Basic Principles

Basic Principles of Professional Behaviour for Nurses, Midwives and Other Health Professionals:

Nurses should:

- To respect the patient as a human being.
- Respect patients' rights, their physical and mental integrity.
- Respect the patient's personality and privacy.
- Respect the patient's mentality and religious beliefs.
- Ensure that the patient has given his or her consent before providing any services and health care to him / her.
- To maintain professional secrecy.
- Collaborate with other team members.
- Maintain and enhance her / his professional knowledge and skills.
- Be a trustworthy person.
- To recognize risk that may concern the patients and reduce it to the lowest possible level.
- To protect and support the patient's health.
- Maintain and enhance the good reputation of the nurse profession.

Articel 3

Nurses and Patients

Nurses, Midwives and other Health Professionals should:

- Establish fair and correct relationships with patients and their families using health promotion, health education and all possible ways to disseminate and deliver quality health services

- Nursing care provided should be consistent, fully efficient, and correct. Nurses should have accurate records of who his / her patients who have accessed through identification cards, giving them answers when they need them, provide them with proper hygienic conditions, introduce them to other persons and health professionals, etc.
- Respect professional privacy and confidentiality as a correct response to the mutual trust that is created between them and patients or even family members, as well to commit the best possible conditions for the patient by adapting them to the patient's psycho-physical condition, his / her own rules or customs, as well as respecting patient's ethnic or religious views.
- The nurse should in no way participate in the acceleration of death even when such a request comes from the patient himself/herself or even from his family or relatives.
- Have partnership relations in providing the right health services and getting those health services, while respecting each other. Patients or family members support and contribution should always be considered as well.

Article 4

Team Collaboration

Nurses collaborate with their colleagues and other team professionals to support the health environment that enables the most secure competent and moral practice of caring and welfare for patients / clients and others in this environment, based on responsibilities and in full accordance with their role as health professionals.

Nurses share their skills and knowledge with other team members so that other professionals benefit from their experiences. The other and most important beneficiaries should be the patients / clients and the population in general.

Nurses support their colleagues when they act faithfully in protecting patients / clients.

Article 5

Professional Confidentiality

The nurse is obliged to keep all patient records that he / she received while providing health care.

Maintaining professional secrecy for the nurse is a moral and legal duty. Professional confidentiality / confidentiality is permitted under certain circumstances only within a team of health workers and is considered a separate secret.

Nursing is obliged to intervene if other participants of the healthcare team do not respect the obligation of professional secrecy.

The nurse is exempt from professional secrecy when another person's health is at stake, when it is of general interest of the community health and when the competent authorities make such a decision.

Article 6

Continuing education

Nurses, Midwives and other Health Professionals members of the Kosovo Nurses' Chamber should maintain the knowledge of contemporary lifelong training in their work.

Nurses need to have the skills, knowledge and effective skills to operate their work effectively.

Nurses must clearly define the boundaries of their professional competence, and thus work and accept responsibility in accordance with their qualifications.

If there is a procedure which is not within the scope of the competence of the nurses, he or she will ask for the assistance and supervision of the competent professionals and should not apply a procedure if it can directly or indirectly harm the patient. Nurses are obliged to assist nursing and midwifery students in their internships.

Article 7

The reputation of Nurses, Midwives and other Health Professionals

Nurses, midwives and other health professionals should act in order to enhance the reputation of their profession.

Nurses, Midwives and other Health Professionals cannot use their status to promote commercial products for financial benefits. They cannot allow any interest to influence their professional judgment.

Nurses, midwives and other health professionals should refuse any gift or favour that could be interpreted as an attempt to get personal benefits.

Nurses must not demand or accept money from patients or their relatives.

Article 8

Patient protection from risks

Nurses, Midwives and other Health Professionals should work to develop nursing care with other teams that prioritize patient safety and health.

In circumstances where professional standards are required, and the consequences cannot be avoided, nurses, midwives and other health professionals should notify the responsible person with a written report.

Nurse / chief midwife or health team leader, has special responsibility towards colleagues and patients. If faced with a professional dilemma, he/she is obliged to consult the relevant OIK bodies, always prioritizing

Patient's interest and safety.

Article 9

Ethical Responsibilities

If a nurse is not sure that the situation specified is not in accordance with the code of ethics he/she should consult the relevant OIK bodies.

A nurse who observes that her colleague violates the Ethical Principles of Professional Conduct must notify the competent OIK authorities.

Nurses are not allowed to not make claims that are intended to harm or offend anyone.

Nurses collaborate with OIK bodies.

Article 10

Relationships between nurses

Nurses or other health professionals should work with their colleagues and treat them as they would like to be treated.

Nurses and other health professionals should care for their and their colleagues' dignity through behaviours that express respect and solidarity in nursing treatment and care.

Nurses or other health professionals should express gratitude to the teachers - those who taught them professional knowledge and skills.

Article 11

Access / Connection / Report to OIK

Nursing, Midwifery and other Health Professionals consider OIK as a professional base, maintaining and promoting its reputation both in the profession and in the general public.

The nurse, midwife and other Health Professionals are obliged to comply with all general acts and other OIK decisions and instructions and to comply with all obligations to the Chamber.

Article 12

Final Provisions

Adhering to the Code Provisions are Binding on all OIK members.

The provisions of this Code are obligatory for all Nurses, Midwives and other health professionals. Offences and sanctions for violations of this Code shall be determined by the general act of the Chamber.

Nurses, midwives and other health professionals are obliged to refuse any professional activity that is inconsistent with this code. Whereas the Chamber is obliged to assist you through its reputation and legal remedies if the need arises.

This Code of Conduct shall enter into force upon approval by the members of the OIK assembly and the Health Minister of Kosovo.