

FOURTH EDITION

Nursing Ethics *and* Professional Responsibility

In Advanced Practice

Edited by

Pamela J. Grace, PhD, RN, FAAN

Associate Professor Emerita
Ethics and Adult Health
William F. Connell School of Nursing
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Melissa K. Uveges, PhD, MAR, RN

Assistant Professor
William F. Connell School of Nursing
Boston College.
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts



JONES & BARTLETT
LEARNING



World Headquarters
Jones & Bartlett Learning
25 Mall Road
Burlington, MA 01803
978-443-5000
info@jblearning.com

Jones & Bartlett Learning books and products are available through most bookstores and online booksellers. To contact Jones & Bartlett Learning directly, call 800-832-0034, fax 978-443-8000, or visit our website, www.jblearning.com.

Substantial discounts on bulk quantities of Jones & Bartlett Learning publications are available to corporations, professional associations, and other qualified organizations. For details and specific discount information, contact the special sales department at Jones & Bartlett Learning via the above contact information or send an email to specialsales@jblearning.com.

Copyright © 2023 by Jones & Bartlett Learning, LLC, an Ascend Learning Company

All rights reserved. No part of the material protected by this copyright may be reproduced or utilized in any form, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the copyright owner.

The content, statements, views, and opinions herein are the sole expression of the respective authors and not that of Jones & Bartlett Learning, LLC. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise does not constitute or imply its endorsement or recommendation by Jones & Bartlett Learning, LLC and such reference shall not be used for advertising or product endorsement purposes. All trademarks displayed are the trademarks of the parties noted herein. *Nursing Ethics and Professional Responsibility in Advanced Practice, Fourth Edition* is an independent publication and has not been authorized, sponsored, or otherwise approved by the owners of the trademarks or service marks referenced in this product.

There may be images in this book that feature models; these models do not necessarily endorse, represent, or participate in the activities represented in the images. Any screenshots in this product are for educational and instructive purposes only. Any individuals and scenarios featured in the case studies throughout this product may be real or fictitious but are used for instructional purposes only.

The authors, editor, and publisher have made every effort to provide accurate information. However, they are not responsible for errors, omissions, or for any outcomes related to the use of the contents of this book and take no responsibility for the use of the products and procedures described. Treatments and side effects described in this book may not be applicable to all people; likewise, some people may require a dose or experience a side effect that is not described herein. Drugs and medical devices are discussed that may have limited availability controlled by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use only in a research study or clinical trial. Research, clinical practice, and government regulations often change the accepted standard in this field. When consideration is being given to use of any drug in the clinical setting, the healthcare provider or reader is responsible for determining FDA status of the drug, reading the package insert, and reviewing prescribing information for the most up-to-date recommendations on dose, precautions, and contraindications, and determining the appropriate usage for the product. This is especially important in the case of drugs that are new or seldom used.

Production Credits

Vice President, Product Management: Marisa R. Urbano
Vice Content Strategy and Implementation: Christine Emerton
Director, Product Management: Matthew Kane
Product Manager: Tina Chen
Director, Content Management: Donna Gridley
Manager, Content Strategy: Carolyn Pershouse
Content Strategist: Paula-Yuan Gregory
Content Coordinator: Samantha Gillespie
Director, Project Management and Content Services: Karen Scott
Manager, Project Management: Kristen Rogers
Project Manager: Erin Bosco
Digital Project Manager: Angela Dooley
Senior Product Marketing Manager: Lindsay White

Content Services Manager: Colleen Lamy
Vice President, Manufacturing and Inventory Control: Therese Connell
Product Fulfillment Manager: Wendy Kilborn
Composition: S4Carlisle Publishing Services
Project Management: S4Carlisle Publishing Services
Cover Design: Theresa Manley
Senior Media Development Editor: Troy Liston
Rights & Permissions Manager: John Rusk
Rights Specialist: Maria Leon Maimone
Cover Image: © Nattapong Wonglounud/EyeEm/Getty Images
Part/Chapter Opener Image: © 4khz/DigitalVision Vectors/Getty Images
Printing and Binding: The P.A. Hutchison Company

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Grace, Pamela June, editor. | Uveges, Melissa K. (Melissa Kurtz), editor.

Title: Nursing ethics and professional responsibility in advanced practice / [edited by] Pamela J. Grace, Melissa K. Uveges.

Description: Fourth edition. | Burlington, Massachusetts : Jones & Bartlett Learning, [2023] | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022006479 | ISBN 9781284248326 (paperback)

Subjects: MESH: Advanced Practice Nursing--ethics | Ethics, Nursing

Classification: LCC RT85 | NLM WY 128 | DDC 174.2/9073--dc23/eng/20220528

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022006479>

6048

Printed in the United States of America

25 24 23 22 21 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



Contents

Preface	viii
Contributors	xi
Acknowledgments	xiii

SECTION I Foundations of Advanced Practice Nursing Ethics 1

CHAPTER 1 Philosophical Foundations of Applied and Professional Ethics..... 2

Pamela J. Grace

Introduction	2
Groundwork	3
Philosophy	8
Moral Reasoning in Health Care: Tools	11

CHAPTER 2 Nursing Ethics..... 36

Pamela J. Grace

Introduction	36
Nursing as a Profession	45
The Relationship of Nursing's Goals and Nursing Ethics	53
Revisiting Nursing Ethics as Professional Responsibility	57
Nursing Ethics: State of the Science	59
Ethical Decision Making and Action for Good Care	61

**SECTION II Common Ethical Issues
Across Practice Specialties 77**

**CHAPTER 3 Advanced Practice Nursing:
The Nurse–Patient Relationship and
General Ethical Concerns..... 78**

Aimee Milliken, Eileen Amari-Vaught, and Pamela J. Grace

Introduction 78
Virtue Ethics: The Characteristics of Good APNs 82
Informed Consent 86
Decision-Making Capacity..... 98
Veracity and Transparency 103
Privacy and Confidentiality 104
Social Media and Electronic Medical Records..... 108

**CHAPTER 4 Professional Responsibility,
Social Justice, Human Rights, and Injustice 135**

Pamela J. Grace and John C. Welch

Introduction 135
The Concept of Social Justice..... 137
The Historical Development of Ideas of Social Justice..... 140
Individuals and Society: Tensions 143
Moral Rights..... 145
Advanced Practice Nursing and Professional Advocacy..... 152
Conclusion 161

**CHAPTER 5 Ethical Leadership by Advanced
Practice Nurses 167**

Pamela J. Grace and Nan Gaylord

Introduction 167
Characteristics of Effective Leadership 169
The Goals of Nursing: Advanced Practice Leadership 170
Enhancing APN Leadership 173
Historical and Contemporary Nursing Leaders 178
Special Conditions Requiring Leadership: Dual Loyalties 180

CHAPTER 6 Research Ethics: Advanced Practice Roles and Responsibilities 185

Pamela J. Grace and Melissa K. Uveges

Introduction	185
Research-Related Roles of the Advanced Practice Nurse	188
Background: Human Subject Research	189
The Historical Development of Research Ethics	190
Research Ethics: Guiding Principles	198
The Ethical Principle of Beneficence	209
Justice	210
Challenges Facing Nurses in Research Roles and Settings	212

SECTION III Ethical Issues in Advanced Practice Specialty Areas 221

CHAPTER 7 Nursing Ethics and Advanced Practice: Neonatal Issues 222

Peggy Doyle Settle

Introduction	222
The Context of Care	223
The Role of Direct Care Neonatal Nurses	229
The Best Interest Standard	231
Collaborative Decision Making	236
Medical Futility	241
Humanitarian Crisis	244

CHAPTER 8 Nursing Ethics and Advanced Practice: Children and Adolescents 251

Nan Gaylord

Introduction	251
Frequently Encountered Concerns	253

CHAPTER 9 Nursing Ethics and Advanced Practice: Women's Health/Gender-Related Care and Midwifery 275

Allyssa L. Harris, Pamela J. Grace, and Melissa Uveges

Introduction	275
Reasons for the Specialty of Women's Health	276
Gaining Trust: The Foundation for Ethical Care	278

Providing Optimal Care Informed by Clinical Evidence 279
Frequently Encountered Concerns 280
Violence Against Women 280

**CHAPTER 10 Ethical Issues in Advanced Practice
Nursing: Caring for Adults and Older Adults 319**

Pamela J. Grace and Jane Flanagan

Introduction 319
Globally Aging Society 321
Other Sociopolitical Influences on Adult/Gerontologic Practice
in the United States and Globally 322
Multidisciplinary Approaches 323
Ethical Issues Related to Aging 324
Other Cases to Consider 334
Conclusion 337

**CHAPTER 11 Nursing Ethics and Advanced
Practice: Psychiatric and Mental Health Issues 342**

Pamela J. Grace, Elizabeth Lessman, and Danny G. Willis

Introduction 342
Good Psychiatric Advanced Nursing Practice 344
The Nurse–Patient Relationship: History 345
Psychiatry and Mental Illness: Goals and Ethical Principles 347
Ethical Principles Plus the Goals of Nursing: Providing Direction . . . 349
Contemporary Social Issues and Mental Health 354
Related Issues 357
Case Studies 360
Conclusion 371
Case Studies and Questions for Class/Group Discussion 371

**CHAPTER 12 Nursing Ethics and Advanced Practice
in the Anesthesia and Perioperative Period 378**

Allan C. Thomas, Gregory Sheedy, and Pamela J. Grace

Introduction 378
APN Leadership in the Perioperative Period 380
Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders During Surgery 383
The Jehovah’s Witness Patient 392
Truth Telling in the Operating Room: The Obligation of Veracity . . . 399
Conscientious Objection in Anesthesia Practice 403

Anesthesia and Distributive Justice 408
 Protecting Patients from Incompetent/Impaired
 Healthcare Providers 412
 Ethical Challenges During Wartime: Dual Loyalties 417

**CHAPTER 13 Nursing Ethics and Advanced Practice:
 Palliative and End-of-Life Care Across the Lifespan 426**

*Stewart M. Bond, Jane E. Castle, Melissa K. Uveges,
 and Pamela J. Grace*

Introduction 426
 The Distinction Between Palliative Care and End-of-Life Care 428
 The Emergence of Palliative Care as a Specialty 430
 The Institute of Medicine’s Reports in the United States 431
 The Role of the Advanced Practice Nurse in Palliative
 and End-of-Life Care 432
 Interdisciplinary Approaches 432
 International Perspectives 433
 Ethical Decision Making in Palliative and End-of-Life Care 433
 Landmark Legal Cases Influencing Palliative and End-of-Life
 Decision Making in the United States 434
 Decision Making in Adults 443
 Autonomy in End-of-Life Decision Making 444
 Identifying a Decision Maker 445
 Enhancing End-of-Life Decision Making 447
 Special Issues in Palliative and End-of-Life Care 451
 Futility at the End of Life: What Does It Mean? Who Decides? 451
 Honoring Patient Wishes: Requests for Assistance in Dying 455
 Palliative Sedation 458
 Nutrition and Hydration 460
 Existential and Spiritual Suffering 462

Glossary 471

Index 479

Preface

The previous editions of *Nursing Ethics and Professional Responsibility in Advanced Practice* continue to be very well received both in the United States and internationally. In the United States, the first edition received the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities and Alpha Sigma Nu honor society national book award in the category of Health Sciences. This fourth edition is co-edited by Pamela Grace and Melissa Uveges. It has been substantially revised to reflect the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, knowledge developments, emerging issues, and contemporary societal needs as informed by extant literature, colleagues, book reviewers, clinicians, and graduate students. The focused on incorporating international as well as national perspectives and initiatives in line with the evolution and expansion of advanced practice nursing roles internationally, and the proliferation of doctor of nursing practice (DNP) leadership focused programs in the United States.

We, and our guest authors, aimed to provide a consistent thread that relates advanced practice both to nursing practice and to the need for the provision of good health care via effective policies. This text is unique in its application to professional issues associated with advanced practice roles. Although this book is specifically directed to the education of advanced practice nurses (APNs), much of the content is applicable to allied healthcare professionals who practice in expanded roles or who are in healthcare leadership positions. As in any work concerned with practice, supplementary reading materials may be needed to gain in-depth or up-to-the-minute knowledge of a specific problem. Additional readings are suggested throughout as appropriate. The content is accessible to anyone who is charged with the ethics education of APN students, including non-nurse philosophers or ethicists. A foundational assumption of the book is that APNs have augmented ethical responsibilities to patients, communities, and society that derive from the nature and purposes of APN and nursing leadership roles.

This assumption grounded the initial purpose for developing this text: to fill a critical knowledge and skill gap. As noted in prior editions, the organization and content of this text were designed to provide a strong course tool for the mandatory APN ethics course at our university, Boston College. It became obvious to the founding editor (PG) that such a book was needed and that she had both the advanced practice nursing experience and philosophical background needed for its design. With the addition of a second editor who has experience in clinical ethics, genetics, and pediatrics we believe the book has been further strengthened.

This fourth edition continues to be the only comprehensive resource that locates APNs' understanding of their responsibilities within the goals and perspectives of their profession while providing them with a strong background in ethical decision making, methods of problem analysis, and strategies for problem resolution. The augmented responsibilities of the APN role demand a resource

that is specifically dedicated to exploring the types and complexities of issues faced by this set of nurses.

Another foundational assumption of this book is that the development of confidence in moral decision making is possible and that this is facilitated by practice in moral reasoning. However, reasoning alone is not sufficient for consistent moral action. The Clinical Ethics Residency for Nurses project (Grace et al., 2014; Jurchak et al., 2017; Lee et al., 2020; Robinson et al., 2014) reaffirmed this. Motivation, good communication, mentored practice, and supportive environments are all needed. Many nurses already possess clinical knowledge and expertise, but they also need the tools to identify and articulate to others the requirements for good care in their practice settings, and they need the motivation to provide good care in the face of obstacles. Facilitators of confidence in moral decision making include exposure to contemporary ethics literature, seriously listening to the views of others with whom one would normally disagree in an attempt to understand why the person thinks the way they do, practice in exploring difficult cases and articulating salient aspects to others, and understanding the sources of one's own biases and prejudices. Exercises for practicing these skills are offered at the end of most chapters.

The methods we use for teaching the “*Professional Responsibility and Ethical Issues in Advanced Practice Nursing*” course are eclectic and depend to some extent on the size and makeup of the class. However, it is usually quite interactive, so we do set ground rules—and they have proved to be invaluable for getting input from all class members, whether in the large-group discussion or in smaller-group discussions. That these ground rules facilitate participation by even the most timid is evidenced in both class interactions and course evaluations. Ground rules for discussion are that persons should consider their points carefully, articulate them succinctly (this skill can take time to learn), be nonjudgmental in any challenge to the point of view of others, consider all sides of an issue carefully, and be willing to try to understand another person's perspective even when disagreement exists. In the small-group case, discussion members take turns leading the group and reporting the group process.

This text is divided into three sections. The first section lays a foundation for understanding ethical APN practice. The chapters in this section build upon one another. Chapter 1 traces the development of professional ethics back to its origins in moral philosophy; that is, in the development of theories about what it is good for human beings to be or do. Chapter 2 explores the idea that nursing ethics is both an area of study about what are good nursing actions, and why, and is also an appraisal of nursing actions.

The second section investigates common issues in advanced practice that occur regardless of setting, or which occur in many settings, and provides resources and strategies for dealing with these. Chapter 3 explores the characteristics needed for good advanced practice as these relate to patients, nurses, and leaders. It includes concerns about privacy and confidentiality and the importance of truth-telling. Two extensive sections discuss ethical problems associated with social media and electronic health records. Chapter 4 explores the tensions for APNs between attending to the needs of individuals and the needs of the larger society. It discusses human rights and the idea of professional advocacy for ethical healthcare environments. Chapter 5 explores the leadership obligations of APNs and DNPs. Chapter 6 discusses advanced practice roles related to the ethical

treatment of persons who are human subjects of research or who are considering whether they should enroll in a research study.

The third and final section consists of seven chapters, each of which is dedicated to a separate area of specialty practice. The chapter authors each hold advanced practice qualifications in the specialty area and/or have knowledge of the ethical issues peculiar to the content area. The specialty areas are neonatal, pediatrics, women's health, adult health and gerontology, psychiatric, nurse anesthesia, and palliative care and end-of-life issues.

References

- Grace, P. J., Robinson, E. M., Jurchak, M., Zollfrank, A. A., & Lee, S. M. (2014). Clinical ethics residency for nurses: An education model to decrease moral distress and strengthen nurse retention in acute care. *Journal of Nursing Administration, 44*(12), 640–646. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NNA.0000000000000141>
- Jurchak, M., Grace, P. J., Lee, S., Zollfrank, A., & Robinson, E. (2017). Developing abilities to navigate through the grey zones in complex environments: Nurses' reasons for applying to a clinical ethics residency for nurses. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship, 49*(4), 445–455. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jnu.12297>
- Lee, S., Robinson, E., Grace, P. J., Jurchak, M., & Zollfrank, A. Developing a moral compass: Themes from the clinical ethics residency for nurses (CERN) final essays. *Nursing Ethics, 27*(1), 28–39. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0969733019833125>
- Robinson, E. M., Lee, S. M., Zollfrank, A., Jurchak, M., Frost, D., & Grace, P. (2014). Enhancing moral agency: Clinical ethics residency for nurses. *Hastings Center Report, 44*(5), 12–20. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hast.353>



Contributors

**Eileen Amari-Vaught, PhD, RN,
MSN, FNP-BC**

Clinical Associate Professor
University of Missouri-Kansas City
School of Nursing and Health
Studies
Kansas City, Missouri

Stewart M. Bond, PhD, RN

Clinical Associate Professor
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Jane E. Castle, PhD, MSN, RN

Professor (retired)
Lincoln Memorial University
Harrogate, Tennessee

Peggy Doyle Settle, PhD, RN

Nurse Director NICU (retired)
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

**Jane Flanagan, PhD, RN, AHN-BC,
ANP-BC, FAAN**

Associate Professor and Department
Chair
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

**Nan Gaylord, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC,
FAANP, FAAN**

Professor and Associate Dean for
Practice and Global Affairs
College of Nursing, University of
Tennessee—Knoxville
Knoxville, Tennessee

Pamela J. Grace, PhD, RN, FAAN

Associate Professor Emerita
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

**Allyssa L. Harris, PhD, RN,
WHNP-BC**

Dean and Professor
College of Nursing, Prairie View A&M
University
Houston, Texas

**Elizabeth S. Lessman, DNP (C),
BSN, RN**

Doctor of Nursing Practice Student
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Aimee Milliken, PhD, RN, HEC-C

Clinical Associate Professor
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Gregory Sheedy, MS, CRNA

Instructor Boston University School
of Medicine
Department of Anesthesiology
Boston, Massachusetts

Allan C. Thomas, DNP, MSN, CRNA

Clinical Assistant Professor
Assistant Director Nurse Anesthesia
Program
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts
Harvard Medical Faculty Physicians
Boston, Massachusetts

xii Contributors

Melissa K. Uveges, PhD, MAR, RN

Assistant Professor
William F. Connell School of Nursing,
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

John C. Welch, DNP, CRNA

Senior Nurse Anesthetist
Boston Children's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts
Clinical Associate Professor
The Ohio State University

Columbus, Ohio
Senior Director of Flagships & Special
Projects
Partners In Health
Boston, Massachusetts

**Danny G. Willis, DNS, RN,
PMH-CNS-BC, FAAN**

Dean and Professor
Trudy Busch Valentine School of
Nursing, St. Louis University
St. Louis, Missouri

Acknowledgments

This edition was made possible by the ongoing support, insight, and experiences of countless past and current patients, nurses, colleagues, students, friends, and family. As usual, we owe special thanks and praise to guest authors, who each provided “true” accounts and illustrations of issues faced in their specialties and without whose contributions this book could not achieve its purpose. We also acknowledge the input into many of the chapters of prior guest authors and have included these acknowledgments as relevant to the chapter in question. Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the editorial and marketing staff at Jones & Bartlett Learning who as always continue to be available, helpful, and encouraging.

*Pamela J. Grace
Melissa K. Uveges*

First, working with co-author/editor Melissa Uveges for this edition has been a pleasure and a gift and I am very grateful that she agreed to join me. She is a true scholar and epitomizes the good nurse. In prior editions, I paid tribute to my late mother, who was a nurse and a midwife. Her influence as my nursing role model lives on in many ways, however, and especially in this work. The late David Roberts was also a strong influence on my educational development.

I am grateful for the ongoing friendship, encouragement, and support of many people. Nan Gaylord contributed two chapters and is a dear friend and colleague; she was instrumental in encouraging me to develop the book. Dorothy Jones, Jane Flanagan, Ellen Mahoney, Sister Callista Roy, and Danny Willis have all continued to provide friendship, intellectual stimulation, and advice.

In addition to nursing colleagues, my thanks go to the faculty in the philosophy department at the University of Tennessee–Knoxville who helped me develop and hone philosophical skills—although they didn’t completely succeed in getting me to exchange my “nursing hat” for that of a philosopher. Glenn Graber deserves a special mention for his steadfast support of my desire to apply the fruits of philosophical study to nursing problems. I have also benefited from the lasting friendships of my philosophy student cohort.

Finally, many thanks to my husband, Chris Hayford, a true and treasured companion whose good humor continues to lighten my life.

Pamela J. Grace

I’m exceedingly grateful to Pamela Grace for the opportunity to serve as co-editor on the newest version of this work. Pam is not only a brilliant ethics scholar, but a trusted friend and colleague. Her insights as a nurse and philosopher continually deepen my understanding of concepts I’ve long known but not fully examined.

xiv Acknowledgments

Through this work, I've benefited from her long-term collaborations with chapter authors and the expertise they bring to specialty topics.

The contributions I've made to this edition come from valuable opportunities afforded to me as a member or regular visitor of several clinical ethics committees, most recently at Boston Children's and Massachusetts General Hospitals, and also through discussions with scholars, students, and clinicians affiliated with the Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics. These settings have been a safe place to learn, question, try out new ideas, and gain treasured friends.

Lastly, I would not be where I am today without the love and support of my family, especially my husband, Tom. He, along with our new son, Will, are the lights of my life.

Melissa K. Uveges