



TRANSITION GUIDE TO

Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals

SIXTH EDITION

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Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals, Sixth Edition

has been designed to assist the reader in a more comfortable transition from the didactics of the classroom to the practical application in the workplace. The sixth edition provides the reader with a clearer understanding of how the law and ethics are intertwined as they relate to health care dilemmas.

The sixth edition, as with previous editions, has been designed to introduce the reader to various ethical-legal issues and should not be considered an in-depth or comprehensive review of a particular ethical-legal issue. The book is a call to arms to do good things, to stand out from the crowd, because acts of caring, compassion, and kindness often go unnoticed.

Features and Benefits

Quotes: The practical application of ethics in the healthcare setting is accomplished by interspersing the thoughts of great minds through Quotes

News Clippings: The legal and ethical issues of current healthcare events are reviewed and explored as News Clippings of actual published editorials

Reality Checks: Patient, personal, provider, and organizational experiences are shared through Reality Checks

Cases: Legal rulings and summaries are showcased through Case Law example.

The book concludes with a closet drama that illustrates the real world of human behavior and ties together its contents in one case.

New to This Edition

The Sixth Edition of **Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals** has been updated to expand discussion on difficult topics and includes a wide variety of current **News Clippings** and **Reality Checks**, which are real-life events experienced by both patients and healthcare professionals in leadership positions in the healthcare industry. These experiences include those of the author, incorporating his observations from a unique background as a hospital administrator in a multihospital system, instructor, author, consultant, and Joint Commission surveyor who conducted numerous accreditation surveys of hospitals and outpatient facilities from Alaska to Puerto Rico.

The author has made every attempt in this *Sixth Edition* to provide the student with the tools necessary for applying the law and ethics in the healthcare setting with the end goal of improving the professional's skills, performance, and decision-making processes.

The following is a summary of changes that have been made to improve the readability of the law and ethics content, which can be difficult topics for the reader to grasp owing to the need to learn new terminology, theories, and concepts that have substantial impact on each healthcare professional's daily tasks.

Continues on next page.

Legal and Ethical Issues for Health Professionals

SIXTH EDITION

Chapter-specific changes are outlined in the following pages.

Chapter 1 Introduction to Ethics

New or expanded topics include:

- Normative Ethics
- Applied Ethics
- Autonomy
- John E. McConnell et al. v. Beverly Enterprises- Connecticut, Inc. et al

The following **Reality Checks** have been added or revised:

- Lack of Respect and Compassion

Chapter 2 Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas

New or expanded topics include:

- World Federation Right to Die Societies
- Right to Die Act
- Physician Assisted Suicide
- Abortion

Chapter 3 End-of-Life Dilemmas

New or expanded topics include:

- Legalized euthanasia
- Death
- Myers v. Schneiderman

Chapter 4 Healthcare Ethics Committee

New or expanded topics include:

- Introduction
- Ethics Committee

The following Reality Checks have been added or revised:

- Please Don't Connect Me to a Ventilator.

Chapter 5 Development of Law

New or expanded topics include:

- Administrative Law
- Legislative Branch
- Judicial Branch
- Federal Court System
- Executive Branch
- Regulatory Overload

Chapter 6 Introduction to Law

New or expanded topics include:

- Standard of Care
- Letter of dismissal

Chapter 7 Government Ethics and the Law

New or expanded topics include:

- United States Office of Government Ethics
- Ethics Committee
- Code of Conduct
- American Hospital Association
- U.S. Health Care System

Chapter 8 Organizational Ethics and the Law

New or expanded topics include:

- Hospital Board
- Joint Commission

Continues on next page.

TRANSITION GUIDE TO

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SIXTH EDITION

Chapter 9 Healthcare Professionals Legal-Ethical Issues

New or expanded topics include:

- Code of Ethics
- Nursing Negligence
- Nursing Shortage
- Nurse Midwives
- *Poor Sisters of St. Francis v. Catron*
- Dentistry
- Negligence/Nutritional Care
- Emergency Care
- Guidelines for Improving Emergency Care
- Laboratory
- Inaccurate Lab Results
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Departure from Recommended Treatment
- Physician Assistant
- Social Work

The following **Reality Checks** have been added or revised:

- Please Don't Let Them Place Me on a Ventilator

Chapter 10 Physician Ethics and the Law

New or expanded topics include:

- Ramberg v. Morgan
- Moyo v. Ambach
- Wrong Site Surgery
- Discharge and Follow-Up Care

The following **Reality Checks** have been added or revised:

- Questionable Medical History Conducted
- Relentless Pain

Chapters 11 Patient Consent

New or expanded topics include:

- Proof of Consent

Chapters 12 Patient Rights and Responsibilities

New or expanded topics include:

- Right to Have an Interpreter
- Right to Choose Physician
- Right to Privacy and Confidentiality
- Right to Transfer

The following **Reality Checks** have been added or revised:

- If I Only Knew Your Pain

Chapters 13 Employee Rights and Responsibilities

New or expanded topics include:

- Elective Abortions
- Sexual Harassment

Chapters 14 Patient Abuse

New or expanded topics include:

- Immunity and Good-Faith Reporting
- Senior Abuse

