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Ethics for the Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant

Reinforcing Your Ethical Decision Making

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Note to Participants: There are interactive pop-up questions throughout this lecture. If you choose to pause the lecture and return at a later time, a natural break time would be after answering the interactive questions. (You are able to pause at any time and the presentation will “remember” where you were. It’s just a more natural time to pause after the interactive questions.) For your convenience, this outline reflects where/when within the lecture the interactive questions occur.

This lecture has 89 slides and is 87 minutes in duration, not including 20 minutes required for reflection on four case studies.

I. Overview of ethics

- A. Defining ethics.
- B. Concept of ethics.
- C. Ethics and professions — why is this important for PTs and PTAs?
- D. Purpose of a professional code of ethics.
- E. The APTA seven core values.

Notes

Interactive Questions — slide 12 @ 17 minutes

II. The APTA Code of Ethics

- A. Purpose of the Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct.
- B. APTA ethical principles
- C. Moral agency
- D. Ethics as it relates to
 - 1. Patient care
 - 2. Professionalism
 - 3. Management
- E. Respect
- F. Moral character

Interactive Questions — slide 25 @ 31 minutes

III. Fundamental ethical concepts

- A. Definitions.
- B. Who are the stakeholders?
- C. Sources of ethical standards
 - 1. Deontological ethics
 - 2. The utilitarian approach
 - 3. The fairness or justice approach
 - 4. The virtue approach
 - 5. The common good approach
 - 6. Consequentialist ethics
 - 7. The Libertarian theory

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- D. Ethics and the law
 - 1. Issues of justice and ethics.
 - 2. Types of justice.

Notes

Interactive Questions — slide 37 @ 44 minutes

- IV. The complexity of ethics
 - A. Ethics and policy principles.
 - B. Ethics in healthcare.
 - C. Social responsibility and purpose.
 - D. Organizational ethics.
 - E. Environmental ethics.
 - F. Integrating healthcare ethics.
 - 1. The most common ethical dilemmas
 - 2. Ethical concerns
 - 3. Barriers
- V. The ethics gap
 - A. The values and principles of high-functioning healthcare teams.
 - B. Promoting ethical conduct at work.
 - 1. Individual factors
 - 2. Organizational structure
 - 3. Your ethical compass.
 - 4. Questions to consider.
 - 5. Additional ethical dilemmas.
 - C. Stages of moral behavior
 - D. Roadblocks to moral ownership
 - E. Defining situations: Ethical problems vs. ethical dilemmas.
 - F. Reporting obligations.

Interactive Questions — slide 64 @ 64 minutes

- VI. Putting it all to work
 - A. The four components of moral behavior.
 - 1. Moral sensitivity
 - 2. Moral judgment
 - 3. Moral motivation
 - 4. Moral courage
 - B. Elements and questions in ethical decision making
 - C. The four-step process of ethical decision making
 - 1. Recognize/define the situation.
 - 2. Reflect.
 - 3. Make a decision.
 - 4. Implement the decision.
 - D. The RIPS framework.
 - E. More ethical dilemmas.

Interactive Questions — slide 78 @ 74 minutes

VII. Case studies: Applying what you have learned.

- A. Case #1
 - Pause for reflection: 5 minutes
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- B. Case #2
Pause for reflection: 5 minutes
 - C. Case #3
Pause for reflection: 5 minutes
 - D. Case #4
Pause for reflection: 5 minutes

Notes

VIII. Conclusion

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