

# Patient perception of the application principle nursing ethics at nanga health centre



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**Abstract** The application of nursing code of ethics is a principle to provide quality nursing services for patients, this is necessary for nurses in various position to be committed to the nursing profession. In this study, the type of research used is quantitative research using descriptive research methods. The samples used in this study were all patients and families of patients who were at Nanga Health Center in accordance with the research criteria with a total of 30 people, using total sampling techniques. The description of patient perception of the application of nursing ethics principles at Nanga Health Center is seen in the dimensions Autonomy, N on maleficence, Beneficence, Justice, Veracity, Fidelity, Accountability, and Confidentiality are in the good category. Patient Perceptions of the Application of Nursing Ethics Principles at Nanga Health Center in June 2022, in general, can be concluded well because all Respondents received comprehensive nursing care in accordance with the principles of Nursing Ethics where all dimensions of Nursing Ethics have been applied well by nurses

Keywords: nursing ethics, application of principles, patient perception

# 1. Introduction

In behavioral health services, health workers must comply with professional ethics (professional code of ethics), one area of service that is the scope of ethical assessment is the world of nursing. In nursing literature, ethics is expressed in the form of morality, authority ability, compliance with regulations, loyalty to colleagues and responsibility based on humanitarian aspects. The nursing code of ethics is an obligation for every nurse in its application, in applying the nursing code of ethics as it should carry out binding legal provisions. The application of the nursing code of ethics is a principle to provide quality nursing services for patients, this is necessary for nurses in various positions to be committed to the nursing profession. The application of the code of ethics aims to identify, organize, examine and justify humanitarian actions by applying the principles of the nursing code of ethics (Rifai 2018).

Ethics-based nursing practice can bring about changes in health care practice. As an important human capital in the health care system, nurses are obliged to follow ethical principles in this area (Cheraghi 2023). The data according to the Health Legal Aid Institute (LBH) states that many malpractice cases in Indonesia are the result of an unsupportive health system. According to data from the Indonesian Health Consumer Empowerment Foundation (YPKKI) from 1998 to 2004 has handled 255 malpractice cases and rarely resolved to the level of investigation because the police also still do not understand about this health problem and result in police handling of malpractice cases is less than optimal (Aningrum 2018).

The nursing profession is a profession that is loaded with moral values, which is manifested in the form of a nurse professional code of ethics as the basis for the highest assessment of all the truth and ugliness of a nurse's behavior in carrying out all her nursing functions. The nurse code of ethics, both international (International Council of Nurses of The Code of Nursing Ethics) and national (Indonesian Nurse Code of Ethics) is a benchmark for the ethical responsibility of the nursing profession (Budhiarte 2017).

Complying with these standards, it should be understood, may not always fulfill the moral norms as the codes have "often appeared to protect the profession's interests more than to offer a broad and impartial moral viewpoint or to address issues of importance to patients and society (Berkman 2004).

The nursing code of ethics is one of the guidelines of a nurse to prevent misunderstandings and conflicts that occur. Problems found in health care are usually caused by the following factors: nurse courtesy, nurse communication, nurse care, nurse sensitivity to complaints, and nurse attitude when performing nurse actions. Therefore, this assessment model is carried out based on 8 ethical principles of nursing which include *Autonomy* (self-autonomy), N on maleficence (Tnot harmful), *B* 



*eneficence* (Bring ignorance), *Justice* (K justice), *Veracity* (Khonesty), *Fidelity* (Trust), *Accountability* (Tresponsibility), *Confidentiality* (Setiani 2018).

# 2. Materials and Methods

In this study, the type of research used is quantitative research using descriptive research methods, namely research that describes important events that occur in the present, carried out systematically and emphasizes more on factual data (Nursalam 2015).

The population used in this study was all patients and families of patients who were at Nanga Health Center who fit the criteria of the study with a total of 30 people. This research uses total sampling techniques, Total sampling techniques are sampling techniques where the number of samples is equal to the population. The reason for taking the total sampling is because the population is less than 100. In this research, the samples taken were patients and family members treated at the Nanga Health Center with a total sample of 30 people.

the data collection process used total sampling technique, the instrument used was a questionnaire and the data was analyzed by descriptive analysis.

# 3. Results

# 3.1. Characteristics Respondent

In table 1, it can be seen that the sex characteristics of the most respondents are female with a total of 2.6 people (86.67%). The age of most respondents is in the age of adults 20-45 years with a total of 23 people (76.67%). The education level of the most respondents is at the high school level with 16 people (53.3%). And that the most respondents work as IRT with a total of 23 people (76.67%).

Table 1 Characteristics of respondents.			
Gender	Ν	%	
Man	4	13.33	
Woman	26	86, 67	
Age			
Teenagers 15-19 Years	1	3.33	
Adults 20-45 Years	23	76,67	
Senior 46 years and over	6	20	
Education			
SD	1	16.67	
SMP	6	20	
High School / Vocational School	16	53,33	
College	3	10	
No School	0	0	
Kind Work			
Farmer	3	10	
Housewife	23	76,7	
Private Employees	0	0	
Self employed	2	6,67	
PNS	0	0	
Guru	1	3,33	
Student	0	0	
Students	1	3.33	
Total	30	100	

# Table 1 Characteristics of respondents

### 3.2. Analysis of Univariate Dexcitive Statistic

Statistical Descriptive Univariate Analysis was conducted to obtain the frequency distribution of Nurses' Ethical Behavior towards Inpatients at Nanga Health Center from the results of the study based on Research Dimensions or variables. Statistical descriptive univariate analysis was carried out to obtain the distribution of research results obtained from the results of filling out questionnaires by 30 respondents. The distribution of research results which includes Patient Perception of ethical behavior based on several dimensions of nursing ethics include: *Autonomy* is respecting decisions that are decided from passien, *Non-mafincence* is actions and treatment carried out by nurses that do not harm patients, *Beneficence* is actions that are carried out beneficial to patients, *Justice* is fair and unbiased, *Veracity* is saying with amessage to patients, *Fidelity* is keeping promises that have been delivered, *Accountability* is responsible in every action taken, *Confidentiality* is maintaining confidentiality (Table 2).

Table 2 Analysis of univariate descriptive statistic.		
Category N %		
Distribution of Autonomy Dimensions		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		
Non-mafincence Dimensional Distribution		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		
Beneficence Dimension Distribution		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		
Justice Dimension Distribution		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		
Veracity Dimension Distribution		
Good 20 66,67		
Enough 10 33,33		
Less 0 0		
Fidelity Dimension Distribution		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		
Accountability Dimension Distribution		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		
Distribution of Confidentiality Dimensions		
Good 30 100		
Enough 0 0		
Less 0 0		

Distribution of Results Based on the Autonomy Dimension, it can be known that Nursing Ethical Behavior on the Autonomy Dimension at Nanga Health Center all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. Distribution of Results Based on Non-mafincence Dimensions, it can be seen that Nursing Ethical Behavior in the Non-mafincence Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. Distribution of Results Based on Beneficence Dimensions, it can be known that Nursing Ethical Behavior on the Beneficence Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. Distribution of Results Based on Beneficence Dimensions, it can be known that Nursing Ethical Behavior on the Beneficence Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. Distribution of Results Based on Justice Dimension, it can be seen that Nursing Ethical Behavior in the Justice Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. Distribution of Results Based on Justice Dimension, it can be seen that Nursing Ethical Behavior in the Justice Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category.

Distribution of Results Based on Veracity Dimensions, it can be known that Nursing Ethical Behavior on the Veracity Dimension at Nanga Health Center respondents amounted to 20 people (66.67%) were in the Good Category and 10 respondents were in the sufficient category (33.33%). Distribution of Results Based on Fidelity Dimensions, it can be seen that Nursing Ethical Behavior on the Fidelity Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. Distribution of Results Based on Accountability Dimensions, it can be known that Nursing Ethics Behavior on the Accountability Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all respondents totaling 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category. And distribution of Results Based on Confidentiality Dimension, it can be known that Nursing Ethics Behavior on the Confidentiality Dimension at Nanga Health Center, all 30 people (100%) are in the Good Category.

# 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Autonomy Dimension

The philosophical underpinning for autonomy, as interpreted by philosophers Immanuel Kant (1724–1804) and John Stuart Mill (1806–1873), This ethical principle was affirmed in a court decision by Justice Cardozo in 1914 with the epigrammatic

dictum, "Every human being of adult years and sound mind has a right to determine what shall be done with his own body (Cardozo 1984).

According to the theory (Suhaemi Mimin 2014) Dimension of Autonomy, nurses must respect human dignity and dignity as individuals who can decide the best thing for themselves. Nurses should involve patients and families to participate in making decisions related to nursing care. Health services can be successfully influenced by nurses' participation in providing nursing services to patients. Nursing is a form of professional service and is an integral part of health services based on nursing knowledge and tips (Purwaningsih 2015).

The results of this study have proven Suhaemi's theory because nurses at Nanga Health Center have applied the Principles of Nursing Ethics based on the autonomy dimension. in this study 100% of respondents applied the dimensions of autonomy well, future research is expected that the dimensions of autonomy will be maintained and this is an principle that nurses must respect.

# 4.2. Non Maleficience Dimension

Nonmaleficence is the obligation not to harm the patient. This simply stated principle supports several moral rules – do not kill, do not cause pain or suffering, do not incapacitate. The practical application of nonmaleficence is for the nurses to weigh the benefits against burdens of all interventions and treatments, to eschew those that are inappropriately burdensome, and to choose the best course of action for the patient (Varkey 2021).

This means that the provision of Nursing Care at Nanga Health Center does not harm or injure patients. According to Johnson (1989), the principle of not hurting others is different and harder than to do good. Nursing is described as a profession that works with compassion and caring (Al 2016)means that by doing actions that do not hurt others, in this case patients at Nanga Health Center can provide a certainty that the provision of nursing care will be good without harming patients. This principle must be maintained in the future

# 4.3. Dimension of Beneficiency

This means that all respondents give perceptions or opinions about this principle very maximally and are really applied at Nanga Health Center. Quality health services are health services that can satisfy every service user in accordance with the code of ethics and service standards that have been set. Care services that are in accordance with standards have a greater impact on the image of hospital services (Mudayana 2014). According to researchers, Non-maleficence and Beneficence are ethical principles that cannot be separated because they are related to providing nursing care well and do not harm other people (patients). Therefore, every Puskesmas must be able to provide the best in the process of providing nursing care to patients. the researcher also suggests that future research should also be carried out in a wider area including hospitals and the community environment.

# 4.4. Justice Dimension

The application of Nursing Ethics Principles at Nanga Health Center is carried out fairly and equally, meaning that it does not discriminate between one another.

According to Beuchamp and Childress, the principle of justice is very important in the ethical principles of nursing, so the health needs of those who are equal must receive health care resources that are proportional to what is needed. When someone has a great health need. This resource allocation and distribution activity allows the achievement of fairness in the distribution of nursing care resources to patients fairly as needed.

According to the researcher, the principle of justice is one of the principles of nursing ethics that needs to be considered by every nurse and other health workers because every patient gets the same opportunity in the process of meeting their needs according to the level of dependence of the patient. Nurses as patient care must ensure fairness and regardless of ethnicity, culture and religion.

### 4.5. Veracity Dimension

The results of the Research on *Patient Perceptions on the Application of Nursing Ethics Principles at Puakesmas Nanga* in June 2022 were seen from the Veracity dimension, as many as 20 Respondents (66.67%) stated Good, 10 Respondents (33.33%) stated Enough.

According to Veatch and Fry (1987) Veracty (honesty), defined as stating the truth and not lying. Honesty must be possessed by nurses when dealing with patients because it is the basis for building a trusting relationship between nurses and patients. But in a study at the Nanga Health Center from 30 respondents there were 10 respondents who stated that it was quite meaningful that in the service at the Nanga Health Center, not all health workers applied the principle of veracty ethics,

this could be due to the patient's condition or difficult situations, such as the nurse had to declare the patient's actual illness but in an unstable patient condition, Nurses also cannot tell patients what really happens, because there are risks that can occur if nurses tell the truth, then that is why the principle of Veracty ethics is quite applied.

According to researchers, honesty is very necessary in the nursing process because it is the basis of a trusting relationship between nurses and patients and in the process of nursing care, the nursing actions given can be accepted by patients because they already understand and trust each other between nurses and patients. Honesty in serving patients is an ethic that must be applied and maintained by nurses because there is already a binding oath so this principle cannot be ignored.

### 4.6. Veracity Dimension

According to Veartch and Fry (1987), Fidelity is defined as obedience in providing Nursing Care, the responsibility to remain faithful to an agreement. Responsibilities in the context of the nurse-patient relationship include the responsibility of keeping appointments, maintaining, confidentiality, giving attention and care. The principle of fidelity requires individuals to honor their promises and commitments to others. The nurse is faithful to her commitments and keeps promises and keeps client secrets. Loyalty, describes a nurse's adherence to a code of ethics that states that the basic responsibilities of the nurse are to promote health, prevent disease, restore health and minimize suffering.

According to the Researcher, one way to apply the Principles of Nursing Ethics in covering appointments is to include obedience in responsibility. To realize this, nurses must be selective in considering what information needs to be maintained and know the right time to keep appointments according to the nurse's relationship with patients, this is indicated by the results of research that has been conducted by researchers that there are how many opinions of patients who say that the application of ethical principles at Nanga Health Center is maximal and must be maintained by maintaining and improving the Principles of Nursing Ethics in Provision of Nursing Care.

# 4.7. Accountability Dimension

According to (Kozier 1991), Accountability contains two main components, namely: Responsibility and Responsibility. This means that the actions taken by the peerwat are seen from the nursing practice, code of ethics, and the law can be justified or valid.

According to researchers in accordance with the results of research conducted at the Nanga Health Center that paasien is very happy if peeraawat is responsible for all nursing actions given in the healing process and improving the quality of health. Therefore, every Principle in Nursing ethics is carried out thoroughly and effectively. At the individual level or patient level, accountability is reflected in the nurse's ethical decision-making process, competence, commitment, and integrity. And it is a part of the standard of nursing practice. accountability must be maintained not only when serving patients but in the future the scope of ethical principles of accountability is expanded with other professional communities such as doctors, pharmacists and health analysts.

# 4.8. Dimension of Confidentality

Nursing is obligated not to disclose confidential information given by a patient to another party without the patient's authorization. An obvious exception (with implied patient authorization) is the sharing necessary of medical information for the care of the patient from the primary physician to consultants and other health-care teams (Weiss 1984).

The rule in the principle of confidentiality is that information about the client must be kept client privacy. Everything contained in the client's health record document should only be read in the context of the client's treatment. No one can obtain such information unless authorized by the client with proof of consent. Discussions about clients outside the service area, telling friends or family about clients with other health professionals should be avoided (Suhaemi 2019).

According to researchers, in nursing care, nurses still maintain patient confidentiality, both the infection experienced by the patient and the therapy received by the patient unless there is consent from the patient himself. Confidentiality is closely related to nurses' oaths and promises, before carrying out their duties at a health center or hospital, every profession takes an oath so that matters of patient privacy cannot be leaked anywhere.

# 5. Conclusions

Patient Perceptions of the Application of Nursing Ethics Principles at Nanga Health Center in June 2022, in general, can be concluded well because all Respondents received comprehensive nursing care in accordance with the principles of Nursing Ethics where all dimensions of Nursing Ethics have been well applied by nurses.

Therefore, it can be concluded that nurses in carrying out their professional actions must pay attention to ethics as a lifestyle, way of life, way of behavior to follow, as a reference that reports the entire track record of the nurse's daily activity routine. Ethics is the science or theory about human moral behavior in society, which consists of types of human actions: conscious and voluntary actions of individuals, certain social groups or society as a whole. Moral refers to that behavior by human beings (Rêgo 2014).

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# **Ethical considerations**

Not applicable.

### **Conflict of Interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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