

Understanding Ethics and Jurisprudence

Course Description:

This course is designed to explain the basics of professional ethics and law and to address common issues in healthcare with a focus on the physical therapy practice.

This course is offered with licensing approval and permission from Elsevier as reproduced from: Professional Ethics: A Guide for Rehabilitation Professionals, Mosby, 1998. This text was written by

Ron Scott, JD, PT, OCS
Associate Professor
Physical Therapy Department, School of Allied Health Services
University of Texas Health Science Center
San Antonio, Texas

In addition, permission was granted from the APTA allowing reprint of the most recent revisions of the Codes of Ethics and Guides for Professional Conduct.

Course content is 49 pages.

Course Objectives:

Course Participants will be able to:

Part 1: Introduction to Ethics

- A. Discuss bases for ethical conduct
 1. Morals
 2. Ethics
 3. Law
- B. Describe the attributes of a profession
- C. Define and distinguish business and health professional ethics
- D. Describe modern blending of law and professional ethics
- E. Explain situational ethics
- F. Understand 4 biomedical ethical principles
 1. Beneficence
 2. Nonmaleficence
 3. Justice
 4. Autonomy
- G. Describe a systems approach to ethical decision making

Part 2: Professional Codes of Ethics

- A. Describe the purposes of a professional code of ethics
- B. Describe PT and PTA Codes of Ethics and Guides for Professional Conduct
- C. Understand the disciplinary process associated with ethics codes enforcement

Part 3: Licensure and Practice Acts

- A. Describe issues of licensure and certification
- B. Describe practice acts and governmental regulations

Part 4: Professional Practice Issues

- A. Understand confidentiality
- B. Understand ethical duties of fidelity and truthfulness
- C. Understand issues surrounding gifts
- D. Describe fraud, waste, and abuse issues
- E. Describe issues regarding the impaired provider
- F. Understand issues of sexual harassment and misconduct

CEU Approvals:

For information on specific state approval of this course, refer to PT On-Line Courses "About State Approvals" page.