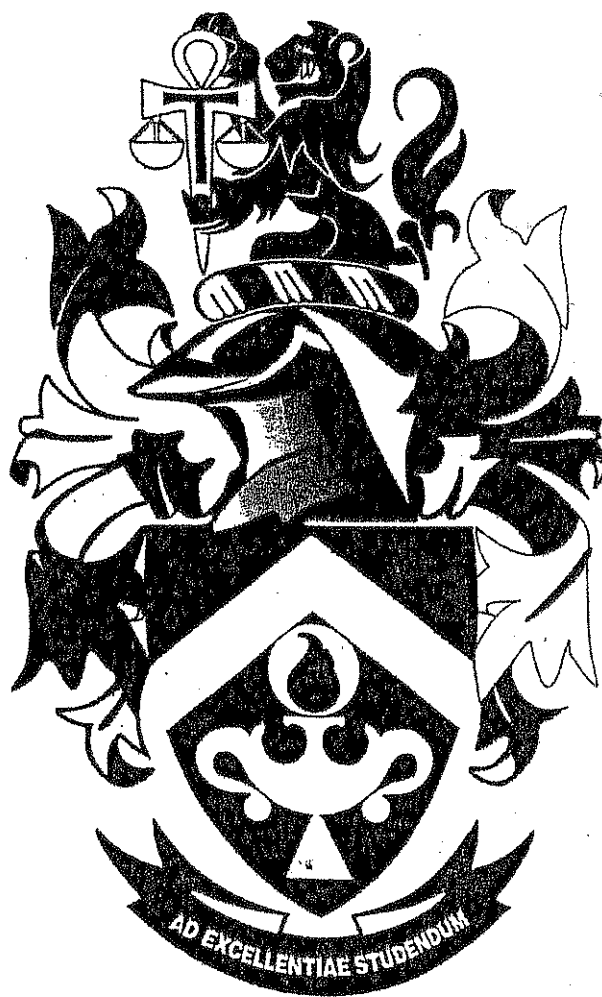


SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL



STANDARDS FOR NURSING PRACTICE
SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL POLICY STATEMENTS

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1. PREAMBLE

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1. PREAMBLE

The principles embodied in the preamble and in the nursing practice standards are applicable to nursing in all health care settings and at all levels of health care

(ii)

1.1

VISION

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL WILL ENSURE
THAT THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF NURSING CARE
IS RENDERED TO ALL PEOPLE
IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
BY UPHOLDING PROFESSIONAL, SOCIAL AND DEMOCRATIC VALUES
IN ITS REGULATION OF THE PROFESSION

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(iii)

1.2

MISSION STATEMENT

THE SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL WILL,
BY DEVELOPING AND CONTROLLING
STANDARDS OF NURSING EDUCATION AND PRACTICE
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH CARE POLICY
THROUGH THE PROCESS OF
CONSULTATION, TRANSPARENCY, DEMOCRACY AND
INCLUSIVITY IN A SOUND PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANNER,
ENSURE THAT THE HIGHEST QUALITY
OF ETHICALLY BASED NURSING CARE
IS RENDERED TO ALL PEOPLE
IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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1.3

VALUE CLARIFICATION

The South African Nursing Council BELIEVES that -

- 1.3.1 nursing⁽¹⁾ is an essential element in meeting the health needs of society;
- 1.3.2 professional knowledge, competence and conduct, characterised by a willingness to be accountable for his/her acts and omissions, caring and a commitment to serve mankind, are imperative for a relationship of trust between society and the nurse;
- 1.3.3 the nurse is able to contribute to the provision of comprehensive health care;
- 1.3.4 the practice of nursing is based on the science of nursing, and directed by professional norms, values and philosophies of nursing.
- 1.3.5 quality nursing practice is based on:
 - 1.3.5.1 adequate knowledge
 - 1.3.5.2 skills/competencies
 - 1.3.5.3 ethically and scientifically based comprehensive and holistic patient care.
 - 1.3.5.4 timeous, accurate and complete/comprehensive recording.
 - 1.3.5.5 optimal multi-disciplinary teamwork and networking.
 - 1.3.5.6 a therapeutic environment
 - 1.3.5.7 accountable professional conduct
 - 1.3.5.8 efficient management of nursing practice, clinical units and nursing services as required for professional qualification and registration.

(1) THE WORDS "NURSE" AND "NURSING" ALSO REFER TO "MIDWIFE" AND "MIDWIFERY"

1.4 THE SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL DECLARATION

WHEREAS

There is a universal need for nursing rooted in human need and directed by an inherent concern and respect for the life, uniqueness, dignity and rights of mankind

AND WHEREAS

The people of South Africa have as a fundamental human right the right to a nursing service

- * unrestricted by considerations of race, colour, creed, religion, culture, politics, social status, personal attributes or the nature of the health problems,
- * which promotes, maintains and restores health and alleviates suffering,
- * which recognises the health needs and vulnerability of the community and individual patients,
- * which creates and maintains a disciplined, safe, compassionate and caring nursing environment,
- * which is accessible to the community, free of neglect and malpractice, free of harassment and intimidation,
- * which ensures continuity of nursing care
- * which takes appropriate action to safeguard patients when their care and safety is endangered by any person or circumstance
- * which is committed to the development of professional knowledge and skills as essential component of a health service
- * which respects and maintains the nationally accepted charter of patients rights
- * which respects and promotes the principles of an accessible, acceptable, affordable, equitable and efficient health care service for the patient/family, group/community within the content of life/cultural world and life-span, from conception to death.

AND WHEREAS

The South African Nursing Council is obliged to serve the people of South Africa by

- * determining who may practise as nurses and midwives and maintaining registers of such persons
- * setting, promoting and controlling the standards of nursing and midwifery education and practice
- * monitoring and enhancing the maintenance of ethical standards

NOW THEREFORE

The South African Nursing Council, recognising the above, reaffirms its commitment to carry out its duty to the people of South Africa namely to ensure that standards of education and practice of nurses and midwives are such that the South African public receives knowledgeable, competent, safe, compassionate and ethically based nursing care.

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1.5 PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

The aim of the following nursing and midwifery practice standards
is to measure the compliance
of nurse managers and practitioners
with their legally prescribed scopes of practice.

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