OT Mastery

Professional and Ethical Issues in Occupational Therapy

1. Who might a therapist face disciplinary action from in the event of an ethical violation?

A. AOTA
B. State courts
C. Federal courts
D. All of the above

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2. What is not considered an intentional tort?

A. Embezzlement
B. Negligence
C. Fraud
D. Assault and battery

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3. A therapist was found guilty of a serious ethical violation by committing insurance fraud. What is the highest level of AOTA sanction they might receive?

A. Censure
B. Reprimand
C. Revocation
D. Suspension

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4. What is one of the most common ethical violations that occurs in research?

A. Incorrect or missing informed consent
B. Lack of funding
C. Subject death
D. None of the above

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5. What is not something a therapy researcher must include in the informed consent for a research study?

A. Risks or discomforts
B. Conflict of interest
C. Cost of participation
D. Intended outcome of the study

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6. A therapy professor is made aware of bullying occurring within one of her OT classes. She does not know how to deal with it so ignores it. What might happen in this scenario?

A. Nothing
B. Professor is put on probation
C. Professor is fired
D. Both B & C

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7. A student decides to use part of their previously-written assignment as the introduction for a new assignment they have. What ethical violation is present here?

A. Accidental plagiarism
B. None; this shows use of good time management
C. Self-plagiarism
D. Exploitation

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8. An elderly patient wants to give a therapist a jar of homemade jam as a thank you during the holidays. The therapist accepts it. What ethical violation is present here?

A. None; it is acceptable for therapists to take small, homemade gifts from clients
B. The therapist cannot take any gifts from patients because this crosses boundaries
C. The therapist cannot take this because the elderly woman may accuse her of stealing it later
D. The therapist can only take gifts worth less than $2, so this is unethical because it crosses that limit

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9. A therapist witnesses a patient fall during treatment and does not write an incident report about it. She instead helps the patient up and puts her back in bed, since no injuries occurred. What ethical violation is present here?

A. The therapist should have gotten the patient examined by a nurse after the fall to ensure no internal bleeding occurred
B. The therapist should have added the incident to her session note only, so the treatment note for that day was considered fraudulent since that was missing
C. Not writing an incident report is negligence since effective documentation is key for patient safety
D. Both A & C

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10. What organization sets the standards for research studies?

A. AOTA
B. EPA
C. IRB
D. NBCOT

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11. What requirements must a therapist stay up-to-date on?

A. State licenses
B. PAMS
C. NBCOT certification
D. All of the above

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12. What is an example of vicarious liability?

A. A doctor telling an OTR what to do and not to do with a new patient
B. An OTR being responsible for a COTA who uses e-stim on a patient with a pacemaker
C. A COTA being responsible for an OTR when a patient falls on their watch
D. A nurse telling a COTA how to best treat a certain patient

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13. Which of the following is not one of the core values of OT?

A. Equality
B. Altruism
C. Graciousness
D. Freedom

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14. Which of the following is not one of the principles of OT?

A. Respect
B. Beneficence
C. Non-maleficence
D. Justice

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15. Which of the following does not fall under the standard of conduct that governs therapeutic relationships?

A. Helping a patient transition to another therapist after their current therapist leaves their job
B. Avoiding romantic relationships with patients
C. Honoring patient wishes
D. None of the above

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16. Following HIPAA, FERPA, and other relevant regulations falls under what standard of conduct?

A. Professional competence
B. Therapeutic relationships
C. Communication
D. Professional civility

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17. Why is cultural competence important?

A. Cultural competence is the same as cultural sensitivity and cultural humility, which all mean a therapist should avoid discussing culture with patients out of respect.
B. Cultural competence is optional in most care settings, but it can help therapists engage with their patients better.
C. Cultural competence is a requirement therapists must fulfill at any job.
D. Cultural competence allows a therapist to behave in a culturally sensitive manner, which helps them avoid ethical dilemmas and unintentional harm to patients.

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18. A therapist begins treating a family member at a nursing facility after a fall at home. Why is this unethical?

A. There is no ethical violation present
B. This is a HIPAA violation since the therapist will have to tell the family.
C. This is a dual relationship, which makes it unethical for a therapist to treat someone they are related to.
D. The therapist will be showing favoritism by taking the family member as their patient, so it's unethical due to the bias present.

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19. Why might a therapist need to take a jurisprudence test?

A. This is not required for our profession
B. Some states require this in order to get a therapy license
C. This is a requirement for any therapist to practice again after ethical misconduct
D. This helps therapists prepare for lobbying

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20. Confidentiality applies to which of the following relationships?

A. Patient-provider relationship
B. OTR-COTA relationship
C. AFWC-student relationship
D. All of the above

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21. Confidentiality can be broken in any of the above relationships in the instance of what?

A. Disciplinary action
B. Abuse of any kind
C. Fear of termination
D. Requirements lapsing

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22. Which of the following is considered unethical in fieldwork settings?

A. An OTR fieldwork supervisor giving improper guidance to OTA students

B. Students bringing outdated, incorrect information into clinical settings
C. Students failing to bring ethical dilemmas to their supervisors
D. All of the above

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23. A therapist begins using the title doctor without clarification in clinical settings. Patients address her as doctor and ask her specific surgical- or medical-related questions outside of OT's scope of practice, which she answers. What is the ethical dilemma here?

A. She has her OTD so she can call herself doctor in settings without clarifying her role
B. The OTR is performing to the best of her ability to treat the patient and there is no ethical dilemma present
C. The OTR is misrepresenting herself, which is unethical
D. None of the above

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24. Which of the following is considered not only unethical but also illegal?

A. Treating without getting patient consent
B. An OTA providing treatment without an OTR watching
C. Practicing outside of scope of practice
D. Both A & C

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25. What is good social media practice for a therapist?

A. Keeping separate accounts for personal and professional business
B. Responding to patient messages on social media promptly
C. Post patient information on social media whenever possible
D. Avoid making disclaimers on any post that emphasize you are not giving medical advice and this cannot substitute treatment

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26. What are trustworthy internet sources that therapists can recommend to their patients when seeking medical information?

A. National Institute of Health
B. WebMD
C. Mayo Clinic
D. Both A & C

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27. What is potential criteria that can be used during chart audits?

A. Disposition for therapy
B. Diagnosis
C. Patient residence
D. Length of individual sessions

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28. What are some phrases that are considered red flags in therapy documentation if used consistently?

A. Motivated
B. Little change
C. Positive affect
D. Unstable condition

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29. What is a good way to find reliable resources for scholarly publications?

A. Asking your professors
B. WebMD
C. PubMed
D. Looking up information in old college textbooks

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30. Which of the following is true regarding consequences of unethical behavior?

A. Therapists can face civil charges, but not criminal charges for unethical behavior
B. A patient may experience assault only if a therapist puts their hands on them and causes physical injury
C. Torts do not apply to therapist wrongdoing
D. Battery involves any form of non-consentual touching

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