



High School Science Virtual Learning

Introduction to Health Services

Legal & Ethical Issues

April 15, 2020



High School Introduction to Health Services

Lesson: April 15, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Students will learn about legal matters and ethics of providing healthcare.



Let's Get Started:

1. What is meant by the term ethics?
2. Are ethics always black and white? Explain why you chose your answer.



Let's Get Started: **Answer Key**

1. **moral principles that govern a person's behavior or the conducting of an activity**
2. **Answers will either be yes/no/maybe and are not complete without an explanation.**



Lesson Activity:

Directions:

1. Look online to find the “Nightingale Pledge” and read it.
2. Look up the Hippocratic Oath for doctors and read it.



Practice

Complete the following questions using the information you learned during the lesson activity.



Questions:

1. Summarize the main idea behind the Nightingale pledge
2. Do you agree with it? Explain why/why not.
3. Do all schools use this?
4. Summarize the main idea behind the Hippocratic oath
5. How does the Nightingale pledge compare to the Hippocratic oath?
6. Is there a difference between a pledge and an oath?



Once you have completed the practice questions check with the **answer** key.

1. The Nightingale Pledge is a statement of the ethics and principles of the nursing profession in the United States
2. **Answers will vary but all require an explanation.**
3. **Most do but it is not mandatory.**
4. **The Hippocratic Oath is a pledge to abide by a code of morals and ethics when providing healthcare.**
5. **They are both pledges of ethics.**
6. **Both are promises, but an Oath is more serious, in that it is usually made to (or in the presence of) a deity or higher power. Example: you pledge money to a charity but you swear an oath in court.**



More Practice:

Research the answers to the following:

1. What happens when a doctor violates the Hippocratic Oath?
2. What is the difference between malpractice and negligence?

Answers for More Practice:

1. Actually, since it is an ethical/moral issue, nothing happens unless he/she is found guilty of a crime such as malpractice or negligence.
2. Malpractice is the improper or unethical conduct or unreasonable lack of skill by a holder of a professional or official position. Negligence is the failure to use such care as a reasonably prudent and careful person would use under similar circumstances. Often negligence leads to malpractice.