

ETHICAL TERM	DEFINITION
Statutory Punishment	Statutory penalty is a penalty imposed for a statutory violation. It is the penalty that the statute prescribes for its violation. It can be a fine, prison sentence , or both, imposed against a wrongdoer for violation of statutory provisions.
Ethics	Ethics is concerned with the question of how we should act. It can be described philosophically as a moral principle that supplements the golden rule can be summed up by a commitment to “ respect the humanity in persons ”
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 required, among other things, the establishment of Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information .
Code of Ethics	A code that represents a set of general principles and rules that have been developed to help ensure that the health needs of the public are provided in a safe, effective, and caring manner.
Autonomy	The principle of Autonomy acknowledges the personal liberty of patients and their right to decide their own course of treatment and to follow through on a plan on which they freely agree.
Coercion	In law , coercion is codified as a duress crime. Such actions are used as leverage, to force the victim to act in a way contrary to their own interests. Coercion may involve the actual infliction of physical pain/injury or psychological harm in order to enhance the credibility of a threat.
Veracity	The principle of veracity (accuracy or truthfulness) binds the health care provider and the patient to tell the whole truth about the choices inherent in medical care.
Benevolent Deception	In actions of benevolent deception , the truth is withheld from the patient for his or her own good.
Nonmaleficence	The principle of nonmaleficence requires that health care providers avoid harming patients and prevent harm actively where possible.
Double Effect	The good and bad effect of an action, compared according to a principle that seeks to justify the action if the bad effect, though foreseen, is outweighed by the good effect.
Beneficence	The principle of beneficence requires that health care providers go beyond doing no harm and contribute actively to the health and well-being of patients.
Advance Directives	Advance Directives allow a patient to give direction to health care providers about treatment choices in circumstances in which the patient may no longer be able to provide that direction.
Living Will	A living will states a patient's health care preferences in writing.
Confidentiality	The principle of confidentiality obliges a health care provider to “respect the secrets which are confided even after the patient has died.”
Harm Principle	This principle requires that practitioners refrain from acts or omissions in which foreseeable harm to others could result, especially when the others are vulnerable to risk.
Distributive Justice	Distributive justice concerns the nature of a socially just allocation of goods in a society. A society in which incidental inequalities in outcome do not arise would be considered a society guided by the principles of distributive justice
Compensatory Justice	Compensatory justice is the way that people are compensated in relation to the injuries that have been inflicted upon them. It is a form of justice that affords monetary value to the extent of a person's injuries.
Role Duty (Fidelity)	The principle of role fidelity means that practitioners have a duty to understand the limits of their role and to practice with fidelity.
Formalism	An ethical viewpoint that relies on adherence to rules and principles.
Consequentialism	An ethical viewpoint where decisions are based on the assessment of consequences.
Principle of Utility	The principle of utility aims to promote the greatest good for most people.

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Virtue Ethics	An ethical viewpoint that asks what a virtuous person would do in a similar circumstance.
Ethical Decision Making Model (Steps 1 – 8)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify the problem or issue. 2. Identify the individuals involved. 3. Identify the ethical principle or principles that apply. 4. Identify who should make the decision. 5. Identify the role of the practitioner. 6. Consider the alternatives (long-term and short-term consequences). 7. Make the decision (including the decision not to act). 8. Follow the decision to observe the consequences.
Intuitionism	Intuitionism is an ethical viewpoint that holds that there are certain self-evident truths, usually based on moral maxims such as “treat others fairly”.
Public Law	Public laws deal with relationships of private parties and the government.
Civil Law	Civil law is concerned with the recognition and enforcement of the rights and duties of private individuals and organizations.
Defendant	The defendant is the person being prosecuted for an offense in a criminal case or the individual accused of a wrong in a civil case.
Plaintiff	The plaintiff is the person bringing the complaint in a civil law case.
Tort	A tort is a civil wrong, other than a breach of contract, committed against an individual or property, for which a court provides a remedy in the form of an action for damages.
Negligent Tort	Negligent tort means a tort committed by failure to act as a reasonable person to someone to whom s/he owes a duty, as required by law under the circumstances. Further, negligent torts are not deliberate, and there must be an injury resulting from the breach of the duty.
Four “D”s of Negligence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The practitioner owes a duty to the patient. 2. The practitioner breaches that duty. 3. The breach of duty was the cause of the damages. 4. Damage or harm came to the patient.
Res Ipsa Loquitur	The legal principle res ipsa loquitur (literally “the thing speaks for itself”) may apply where a court determines under the facts that the circumstantial evidence rises to a level to permit its assertion.
Criminal Malpractice	Criminal malpractice is a classification of malpractice that includes crimes such as assault and battery or euthanasia. Criminal negligence is a statutory offense that arises primarily in situations involving the death of an innocent party as a result of the operation of a motor vehicle by a person who is under the influence of Drugs and Narcotics or alcohol. Most statutes define such conduct as criminally negligent Homicide.
Civil Malpractice	Civil malpractice is a classification of malpractice that includes negligence or practice below a reasonable standard.
Ethical Malpractice	Ethical malpractice is a classification of malpractice that includes violations of professional ethics and may result in censure or disciplinary actions by licensure boards.
Intentional Tort	An intentional tort is a wrong perpetrated by someone who intends to do the act and, possibly, intends to do the harm.
Slander	Slander is the verbal defamation of an individual by false words by which his or reputation is damaged.
Libel	Libel is printed defamation by written words, cartoons, and such representations to cause an individual to be avoided or held in contempt.
Assault	Assault is an intentional act that places another person in fear of immediate bodily harm.
Battery	Battery represents unprivileged, nonconsensual physical contact with another person.
Respondeat Superior	Respondeat superior (Latin: "let the master answer"; plural: respondeant superiores) is a US legal doctrine which states that, in many circumstances, an employer is responsible for the actions of employees performed within the course of their employment.

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Scope of Practice	The scope of practice describes the procedures, actions, and processes that a healthcare practitioner is permitted to undertake in keeping with the terms of their professional license.