

**The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council
(MNNMC)**



**Code of Ethics and Nursing–Midwifery
Professional Conduct**

Developed by MNNMC
2015

Acknowledgement

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Table of Contents

Value Statement 1:	Respect Clients' Values, Beliefs, Customs and Needs	1
Value Statement 2:	Respect Clients' Rights to Have Autonomy	2
Value Statement 3:	Respect Clients' Rights to Confidentiality	3
Value Statement 4:	Respect Clients' Right to Preserve Privacy and Dignity	4
Value Statement 5:	Provide Care in a Responsible and Accountable Manner	5
Value Statement 6:	Maintain Competency in the Care of Clients	6
Value Statement 7:	Maintain Ethical Standards in the Conduct of Nursing Research	7
Value Statement 8:	Provide an Ethical, Conducive Environment to Practice	8
Value Statement 9:	Promote Professional Ethical Standards and Maintain Public Trust on the Nursing Profession	9
Value Statement 10:	Refrain From Professional Misconduct	10
The Pledge of Myanmar Nurses		12

Value Statement 1

Respect Clients' Values, Beliefs, Customs and Needs.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, have to provide care that agrees with the clients' beliefs, values, customs and needs without discrimination for gender, ethnicity, age, color, creed, disability or illness, nationality, politics, race, religion, social and economical stratification.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Assist and encourage clients to express their needs, customs, beliefs and values and consider them to take actions in the plan of care;
2. Actively listen to the clients' expression of their needs, customs, beliefs and values regarding health and nursing midwifery care;
3. Allow and encourage clients to be involved in the planning of nursing care;
4. Be sensitive to clients' cultural practices in health and respect clients' beliefs, values and needs; and
5. Provide care without discrimination for gender, ethnicity, age, color, creed, culture, disability or illness, nationality, politics, religion, and socioeconomic status.

Value Statement 2

Respect Clients' Rights to Have Autonomy.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, have to respect the clients' right for the choice to make decisions by providing relevant information before performing any nursing interventions.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Respect clients' self ideas, health needs and decisions;
2. Inform clients about nursing care alternatives to allow them to choose;
3. Obtain informed consent prior to performing any nursing interventions;
4. Respect the informed decision of competent clients to accept or refuse;
5. Obtain informed consent from clients' families or significant others if client is unable to make decisions; and
6. Collaborate with other health members to obtain informed consent for appropriate treatments.

Value Statement 3

Respect Clients' Rights to Confidentiality.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, have to maintain *the confidentiality of the information relating to the clients' health*.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Respect the clients' rights;
2. Secure confidentiality and maintain anonymity of client-related information;
3. Disclose the confidential information when authorized by the client;
4. Disclose the client's information if there is no harm to clients and other persons or there is a legal duty to disclose the information;
5. Give honest, trustful and balanced information and advice to clients. Information and advice should be based on best evidence or best available practice standards.

Value Statement 4

Respect Clients' Right to Preserve Privacy and Dignity.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, have to provide nursing care that ensures the clients' privacy and dignity are a priority.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Respect clients' rights;
2. Respect and deal with the client as an individual not as a patient or a case;
3. Provide privacy at any place whenever performing nursing assessments or nursing interventions;
4. Provide nursing care in a manner that protects the clients' privacy and dignity;
5. Provide appropriate care to support a dignified and peaceful death if life can no longer be sustained.

Value Statement 5

Provide Care in a Responsible and Accountable Manner.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, must be responsible for ensuring safe, effective, systematic, and ethical care as well as professional integrity.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Safeguard the health and safety of clients against incompetent, unsafe and unethical or illegal practices;
2. Ensure consideration of safe nursing practices prior to performing any nursing intervention;
3. Be responsible for providing accurate and relevant information when dealing with clients;
4. Be responsible for making decisions and providing nursing actions for the clients;
5. Provide nursing and midwifery practice independently within the discipline of professional practice in an accountable manner;
6. Recognize the relationship between professional responsibility, accountability and professional integrity ; and
7. Maintain appropriate professional boundaries. Ensure a patient-centered approach within the confines of the therapeutic relationship.

Value Statement 6

Maintain Competency in the Care of Clients.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, must evaluate the level of knowledge and skills as well as effectiveness of nursing care provided and maintain the competency standards in the care of clients through continuing nursing education and apply them with evidence-based nursing.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Ensure that nursing and midwifery practice is based on the best available evidence in the scientific nursing literature;
2. Keep up to date with nursing and medical advances by participating in continuing medical and nursing education activities;
3. Evaluate the level of competency and effectiveness of care delivered; and
4. Ensure that personal and professional competency is updated through continuing professional development.

Value Statement 7

Maintain Ethical Standards in the Conduct of Nursing Research.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, must maintain ethical standards in conducting nursing research in line with ethical principles relating to research adopted by MNMC.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Ensure that nursing research conducted does not cause harm to the clients;
2. Respect the clients' right to informed consent regarding participation in research and right to withdraw from participation;
3. Ensure that consent is obtained from the family or significant others when clients are not competent;
4. Maintain clients' anonymity and confidentiality;
5. Comply with ethical guidelines for research issued by hospitals or respective institutions;
6. Obtain recognition and approval for the research proposal from the institutional bodies of research committee and the ethical committee; and
7. Ensure that the research is accepted by the organizations to be conducted.

Value Statement 8

Provide an Ethical, Conducive Environment to Practice.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, must provide an environment that is ethically conducive and maintain an ethical culture through collaboration with health care team members.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Respect the values of health care team members and collaborate with them to provide an ethical health care atmosphere;
2. Protect clients from incompetent, unsafe or unethical care and safeguard individuals when the care is endangered by co-workers and other persons;
3. Discuss with relevant expertise regarding ethical issues; and
4. Provide a care practice environment within the discipline of ethical aspects.

Value Statement 9

Promote Professional Ethical Standards and Maintain Public Trust on the Nursing Profession.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, must respect and uphold nursing midwifery ethics and the Myanmar Nurses' Pledge and sustain people's trust and confidence in the nursing profession.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC must:

1. Respect and maintain the Myanmar Nurses' Pledge;
2. Present the professional ethical perspective when providing and participating in health care;
3. Advocate fairness when participating in the formulation of health policies or when supporting and attempting to meet the health needs of the public;
4. Promote fair allocation and efficient use of resources;
5. Provide assistance when medical emergency situations arise outside of service;
6. Avoid demanding financial compensation for service provision;
7. Refrain from any form of publicizing that is incompatible with the ethical standards of the profession; and
8. Refrain from publicly endorsing the products or services of sponsoring companies when organizing activities.

Value Statement 10

Refrain From Professional Misconduct.

Description

We, nurses and midwives registered at MNMC, must refrain from professional misconduct defined as any act of commission or omission that is unacceptable with the standards for professional and ethical nursing practice.

Practice

The nurses and midwives registered at MNMC are responsible for any conduct that:

- Causes harm to the client;
- Abuses the professional relationship with the client;
- Brings the nursing profession into disrepute ; and
- Violates legal nursing and midwifery practice.

Professional misconduct includes the following:

1. Any illegal nursing and midwifery practice;
2. Any act that is a violation of the professional values and standards mentioned in the “Myanmar Professional Code of Ethics” and Professional Conduct and the Standards of Practice for Nurses and Midwives;
3. Any failure to uphold personal and professional integrity in one’s practice, such as:
 - a. Falsifying records;

- b. Abusing clients verbally, physically or emotionally;
 - c. Mistreating the nurse-client relationship;
 - d. Signing or issuing a document containing false and misleading information in one's professional capacity;
 - e. Practicing while suffering from substance abuse;
 - f. Misusing properties from clients or workplace;
 - g. Indulging in inappropriate relationships with clients;
 - h. Indulging in inappropriate business practices; and
 - i. Committing an act regarded by the profession as disgraceful or unprofessional.
4. Any breaking of requirements from MNMC, such as:
- a. Practicing without any valid nursing midwifery registration and licenses or current registration;
 - b. Falsely assuming titles or designations to betray clients;
 - c. Using another nurse/midwife's name and/or registration in the course of providing or offering services to clients;
 - d. Using registration and licenses or current registration unfaithfully;
 - e. Failing to comply with the provisions of the Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Law or its regulations, orders by the MNMC and procedures and orders by the Ministry of Health;
 - f. Being convicted of any offence that may bear upon the nurse's/midwife's suitability to practice;
 - g. Having any evidence of guilt in professional misconduct;
 - h. Failing to appear to an inquiry by the MNMC.

The Pledge of Myanmar Nurses

သူနာပြုသစ္စာအမိဋ္ဌာန် ("Thunarpyu Thitsar ah-daik-htan")

ကျွန်ုပ်တို့သည် -

- ၁။ လူသားအားလုံး၏ ကိုယ်ကျန်းမာရေး၊ စိတ်ကျန်းမာရေးကို ကျွန်ုပ်တို့ အရေးကဲသို့ ယူဆပါအံ့။
- ၂။ အကျွန်ုပ်တို့သည် သူနာပြုများ၏ ဂုဏ်သိက္ခာကို ထိန်းသိမ်းပြီး အကျင့်စာရိတ္တဖျက်ပြားမှုမှ ရှောင်ကြဉ်ပါအံ့။
- ၃။ ကိုယ်စွမ်းဉာဏ်စွမ်းရှိသမျှ ဂီလာနုပုဂ္ဂိုလ်များအား လူမျိုး၊ ဘာသာ၊ အဆင့်အတန်း မခွဲခြားဘဲ ပြုစုပါအံ့။
- ၄။ လူသားတို့၏ အသက်အန္တရာယ်နှင့် ကျန်းမာရေးကို ထိခိုက်စေနိုင်မည့် မည်သည့်အပြုအမူမျိုးကိုမဆို တားဆီး ကာကွယ်ပါအံ့။
- ၅။ လူနာ၏ ဝေဒနာသက်သာမှုနှင့် ကျန်းမာရေး တိုးတက် မြင့်မားလာစေရန် အခြားကျန်းမာရေးဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့် ပူးပေါင်း၍ အစွမ်းကုန်ကြိုးစား ဆောင်ရွက်ပါအံ့။
- ၆။ လူနာ၏ ဂုဏ်သိက္ခာနှင့် ကိုးကွယ်ယုံကြည်မှုများကို အစဉ်လေးစားပါအံ့။
- ၇။ လူနာ၏ အတွင်းရေးကိစ္စများကို ပြောဆိုသင့်သည့်အချက်များမှအပ လျှို့ဝှက်ချက်အနေဖြင့် စောင့်ထိန်းပါအံ့။
- ၈။ သူနာပြုများ လိုက်နာရမည့်ကျင့်ဝတ်များကို စောင့်ထိန်း၍ သူနာပြုအချင်းချင်း ထာဝစဉ် စည်းလုံးညီညွတ်ရန် အမြဲတစေ ဆောင်ရွက်ပါအံ့။

Appendix 1:

List of Group members participating for Key Stakeholder Meeting and Approved Above “Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for MNMC Registered Nurses and Midwives”

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| 1. | Daw Khin May Win | Director (Retired), Department of Health,
Ministry of Health |
| 2. | Prof. U Maung Maung | Professor (Retired), University of Nursing,
Yangon |
| 3. | Daw Phyu Phyu | President, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council,
Director (Retired), Department of Health,
Ministry of Health |
| 4. | Prof. Daw Lorna | Vice President, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife
Council Professor (Retired), Family Health
Nursing Department, University of Nursing,
Yangon |
| 5. | Daw Nwe Nwe Khin | Director, Department of Health Professional
Resource Development and Management,
Ministry of Health |
| 6. | Daw Aye Nyunt | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council,
Assistant Director (Retired), Department of
Medical Sciences, Ministry of Health |

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| 7. U Kyi Win | Secretary, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Assistant Director (Retired), Regional Health Department, Mon State |
| 8. Daw Khin Mar Kyi | Director (Nursing), Department of Medical Care, Department of Health, Ministry of Health |
| 9. Prof. Daw Yin Yin | Pro-Rector, Military Institute of Nursing & Paramedical Sciences, Mingaladon, Yangon |
| 10. Prof. Daw Kaw Nau | Pro-Rector, University of Nursing, Yangon |
| 11. Prof. Daw Lin Lin Khine | Nursing Manager, Nyein Hospital, Mandalay, Professor/Head (Retired), Adult Health Nursing Department, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 12. Prof. Daw Hla Hla Aye | Pro-Rector, University of Nursing, Yangon |
| 13. Prof. Daw Khin Win | Pro-Rector, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 14. Prof. Daw Htwe Htwe Nyunt | Professor/ Head, Department of Adult Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Yangon |
| 15. Daw Khin Thein | Associate Professor, Department of Maternal and Child Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Yangon |
| 16. Daw Myint Htay | Associate Professor, Department of Fundamental Nursing, University of Nursing, Yangon |
| 17. Daw Clara | Associate Professor, Department of Community Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Yangon |

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| 18. Daw Lahkri Hkawn Nu | Associate Professor, Department of Adult Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 19. Daw Hla Shwe | Associate Professor, Department of Maternal and Child Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 20. Daw Myint Myint Nwe | Associate Professor, Department of Community Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 21. Daw Tin Tin Kyaw | Associate Professor, Department of Mental Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 22. Prof. Daw Khin Hla Shwe | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Professor/Head (Retired), Department of Adult Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 23. Prof. Daw Khin Mya | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Professor/Head (Retired), Department of Fundamental Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Mandalay |
| 24. Major Daw Than Aye | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Lecturer/Head (Retired) Military Institute of Nursing & Paramedical Science, Mingaladon, Yangon |

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| 25. Capt. Daw Than Than Soe | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Nursing Officer (Retired) Defence Services General Hospital (1000 Bedded), Mingaladon, Yangon |
| 26. Daw Than Nyunt Oo | Joint-Secretary, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Assistant Director (Retired), Regional Health Department, Taungyi, Shan State |
| 27. Daw San Yi | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Director (Nursing) (Retired), Department of Health, Ministry of Health |
| 28. Daw Ah Than | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Matron (Retired), ENT Hospital, Yangon. |
| 29. Daw Shwe Kyi | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Assistant Director (Retired), Regional Health Department, Mandalay Division |
| 30. Prof. Daw Yin Mya | President, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Association (Central), Professor/Head (Retired), Department of Mental Health Nursing, University of Nursing, Yangon |
| 31. U Khin Maung Win | Secretary, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Association (Central) |
| 32. Daw Aye Shwe | EC, Myanmar Nurse and Midwife Council, Nursing Officer (Retired), Department of Health, Ministry of Health |
| 33. Daw Khin Ohn Myint | Nursing Superintendent, Yangon General Hospital, Yangon |

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| 34. Daw Win Kyi | Assistant Director (Nursing), Department Health,
Nay Pyi Taw Council Region |
| 35. Daw Win Win Myint | Assistant Director (Nursing), Regional Public
Health Department, Yangon Region |
| 36. Daw Leoni | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Kachin State |
| 37. Daw Naw Eh Thwe | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Kayin State |
| 38. Daw San Win | Assistant Director (Nursing), Regional Health
Department, Tha Nin Tha Yi Region |
| 39. Daw Patricia Moses | Assistant Director (Nursing), Regional Health
Department, Bago Region |
| 40. Daw San San Yin | Assistant Director (Nursing), Regional Health
Department, Magway Region |
| 41. Daw Naw Rose | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Mon State |
| 42. Daw Oo Than Tin | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Rakhine State |
| 43. Daw Khin Win Myaing | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Southern Shan State |
| 44. Daw Khin Thant Zin | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Northern Shan State |
| 45. Daw Mar Mar Aye | Assistant Director (Nursing), State Health
Department, Shan State (East) |

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| 46. Daw San San Tin | Assistant Director (Nursing), Regional Health Department, Ayeyarwaddy Region |
| 47. Daw Khin Khin Myint | Matron, General Hospital (1000Bedded), Nay Pyi Taw |
| 48. Daw Kyi San | Matron, Central Women Hospital, Yangon |
| 49. Daw K. Awn Lu | Matron, General Hospital, Mandalay |
| 50. Daw Nyo Nyo Oo | Nursing Officer, State Health Department, Kayar State |
| 51. Daw Mu Mu Win | Nursing Officer, Regional Health Department, Saggaing Region |
| 52. Daw Myint Myint Mar | Nursing Officer, Regional Health Department, Mandalay Region |
| 53. Daw Aye Mi | Matron, Mandalar Private Hospital, Mandalay, Principal (Retired), Nursing –Midwifery Training School, Mandalay |
| 54. Daw Nan Nan Aung | MNCH Advisor, Jhpiego (An affiliate of Johns Hopkins University), Myanmar |

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