

# **Perianesthesia Nursing Can Be Risky Business: Decreasing Your Susceptibility**

**Sharon D. Smith, BSN, RN**

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# Objectives

- Describe nursing code of ethics, professional conduct and the legal system
- Discuss common causes for malpractice claims
- Identify strategies to protect yourself from administrative issues and legal claims

# Code of Ethics

- American Nurses Association (ANA)
- First code adopted 1950
- Dynamic
- Nine provisions

# Nurse Practice Act

- Hawaii Revised Statutes
- Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
  - Board of Nursing

# Professionalism

- Competency - knowledge
- Skill - actions
- Ethical - respect for self, others, and the environment

# Policies and Procedures

- Know the difference
- What to do if there is none
- Know your resources

# Legal System

- Duty
- Breach
- Causation
- Injury

# Common Claims

- Failure to follow standards of care
- Failure to use equipment in a responsible manner
- Failure to assess and monitor
- Failure to communicate
- Failure to document
- Failure to act as a patient advocate



# Case Discussion

- (Will highlight cases)

# Protect Yourself

- Know and follow the nurse practice act
- Know and follow your facility's policies and procedures
- Stay up-to-date in your field

# Protect Yourself

- Assess your patient
  - policy and physician orders
  - more frequently prn
- Report abnormal assessments and laboratory values promptly
- Document
  - reflects nursing process (assessment, intervention, evaluation)

# Protect Yourself

- Follow up on delegation to others
- Communicate openly and factually
- No precharting

# Let's Play

- Raise your right hand...

# What Happened?

- Did you change???
- What did change??

# Protect Yourself

- Promptly file incident reports
- Do **NOT** record in the patient record that an incident report was filed

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