

# Code of Ethics



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 The nurse is responsible and accountable for individual nursing practice and determines the appropriate delegation of tasks consistent with the nurse's obligation to provide optimum patient care.

American Nurses Association Code of Ethics,  
June 2001



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- In addition to the knowledge base and skill set specific to nursing practice, nurses must adhere to a professional code of ethics.
- Both the State of Maryland and the American Nurses Association have adopted language detailing the Code of Ethics for Nurses.

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- The State of Maryland Code of Ethics for Nurses is contained within the Nurse Practice Act, specifically Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 10.27.09.02

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## Summary of COMAR 10.27.09.02

### **.02 Ethical Responsibilities.**

A nurse shall:

- Provide services with respect for human dignity and the uniqueness of a client unrestricted by consideration of social or economic status, religious affiliation, personal attributes, or the nature of health problems;
- Safeguard a client's right to privacy by maintaining confidentiality of information;

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## Summary of COMAR 10.27.09.02

### **.02 Ethical Responsibilities.**

A nurse shall:

- Safeguard a client and the public from incompetent, unethical, or illegal practice of any person;
- Assume responsibility and accountability for individual nursing judgments and actions;
- Maintain competence in nursing;

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## Summary of COMAR 10.27.09.02

### **.02 Ethical Responsibilities.**

A nurse shall:

- Exercise informed judgment in seeking consultation, accepting responsibilities, and delegating nursing activities to others; and
- Inform the Board regarding unethical conduct by another licensed nurse.