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Module 10 Summary

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ETHICAL PRINCIPLE 10 – SUPPORTING ETHICAL PRACTICE & PREVENTING HARM

THE WHY, THE HOW AND YOUR DUTY	KEY LEARNINGS, CRITICAL DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS	YOUR DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS
SCENARIO HCA HEALTHCARE & ITS CONTRIBUTION TO ETHICAL PRACTICE	 Promoting ethical practices and preventing harm require you to be a role model and drive the change. Promoting transparency is critical when dealing with patients. You are responsible for informing them about policies, procedures, and governance affecting ethical practices. Ensure that staff are well-informed and properly trained on relevant policies, procedures, and governance. Actively engage in the Ethics Committee to contribute to ethical decision-making processes. Proactively tackle critical ethical issues. Set the standard for ethical practice throughout the organisation. Engage with all stakeholders to discourage and prevent unethical behaviour and practices within the organisation. Ensure that no retaliation occurs against whistle-blowers who bring to light ethical or legal concerns. Safeguard those who come forward to highlight issues. 	NOTES FOR MANAGERS Following good practice is non-negotiable!
LEGAL CASE FALSIFYING, TAMPERING WITH, MEDICAL RECORDS	 Formally develop policies, processes and governance, to deal with falsification of records and the disciplinary action that will follow. Monitor the reports on the Fraud and Ethics Reporting Lines, to identify issues with medical records. Protect whist leblowers and ensure protection against retaliation. At board level, ensure that all company practices are monitored, reviewed and reported on by senior management. Proactively address critical areas of ethical concern. Create general awareness of your policies that support zero tolerance of unethical practices and harm. Review and update your policies and procedures on standards of care and documentation of medical records. Train all nursing staff on your policies and procedures for standards of care and all clinical staff on your policies and procedures for documentation in medical records. Periodically audit medical records to ensure that documentation is complete, and that entries have not been falsified or erroneously reported in any way. 	NOTES FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVES AND BOARD MEMBERS Feigning ignorance is not a valid defence!