

Imaging Scenario: Student Competency
Scenario # 5
Dayna Romero; Ethics 101; 12/8/22

A biker arrives at the emergency room injured from a collision with another vehicle. The biker needed a computed tomography (CT) scan. The CT imaging specialist did not deliver effective professionalism or patient care due to the patient's appearance. The CT imaging professional later saw the biker well-dressed and returning to the hospital for a follow-up CT scan. The biker happened to be one of the hospital's attorneys. The CT technologist was at a loss for words when she realized the attorney was the same biker that she took care of effortlessly.

Discrimination is prohibited in patient treatment situations. It is important to treat the patient without discriminating against their "sex, race, creed, religion, or socioeconomic status (Young and Cook 263). It is important that every healthcare worker avoids -isms. "-isms are prejudgments entailing a tendency to judge others according to a standard considered ideal or presumed to be "normal" (Young and Cook 198). However, the CT imaging professional clearly demonstrated classism. "Classism or elitism is the assumption that certain people are superior because of their social status, economic status, or position in a group or organization" (Young and Cook 199). This prejudice believes that those with more wealth or education are superior to those with less wealth or proper education. Elitism may occur in health care if a poorly dressed college student is not given the same treatment offered to a well-dressed college student. This -ism relates to this scenario because the CT technologist judged the biker on his attire and biker buddies.

The CT technologist lacked following the Code of Ethics. It is the responsibility of a healthcare provider to deliver effective patient care and service no matter what the circumstances are. The CT technologist did not deliver effective patient care and service because of the biker's apparel. The CT technologist also lacked professional values. Professionalism is one of the most important qualities to meet in health care. Professionalism is also a Code of Ethics that should

always be followed in any scenario. “Professionalism is an awareness of the conduct, aims and qualities defining a given professional code of ethics, and understanding of ethical schools of thought, patient professional interaction models, and patient rights” (Young and Cook 8). The CT technologist could have simply provided professionalism by demonstrating integrity. Instead, the CT technologist acted unprofessionally because of the biker’s accoutrements. Doing so developed a complaint against the CT technologist. The CT technologist actions could have a negative affect on the department and the hospital. Since the biker is an attorney for the hospital, he may not defend a healthcare worker regarding unprofessionalism due to his experience.

The biker could have sued the hospital for discrimination, making it a legal dilemma. If this legal dilemma were to happen. It could be prevented by communicating. This legal dilemma also could have been prevented if the CT technologist presented effective patient care without fear towards the biker and the biker's buddies. As a radiography student, I wouldn’t have quickly assumed the biker was going to be an unpleasant patient to care for based on his appearance and biker friends. I would have simply treated the patient as any other patient with courtesy and respect. If the patient then became a problem, I would have asked for assistance during the exam. I would have also later apologized to the biker for the lack of effort when caring for him during his visit.

Works Cited

Fares), Towsley-Cook Doreen Doreen M. Towsley-Cook Mae Rt(R), and Young Terse Jd Rt(R)
Cnmt. *Ethical and Legal Issues for Imaging Professionals (Towsly-Cook, Ethical and
Legal Issues for imaging Professionals)*. 2nd ed., Mosby, 2007.