One current ethical issue in nursing is a lack of respect for patient autonomy, especially when they refuse certain medical treatment. Provision 1 says "The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person." This supports autonomy because it explains how each patient has their own opinions about their care and the right to make their own independent decisions on the care they receive. There are many times that patients make decisions about their care that the healthcare team might not agree with or think is right, but either way it is important to respect the patient's decision. Autonomy in nursing is also important because it helps nurses to think critically and deliver patient centered care, especially in the case of an emergency. This also helps nurses get to know their patients on a deeper level so that they can advocate for them when they are in need of it most. According to Nevada State University, "Because nurses spend so much direct time with patients, they get to know them well and can advocate for their needs and preferences to other healthcare staff" (Nevada State University, 2025). I think that it is important as it helps establish a good nurse-patient relationship and it gains their trust in you as the nurse. It is important that we treat patients with respect no matter what decisions they make about their healthcare, whether we agree with it or not. It is important that we do not judge or treat them any differently based on any decisions that they make, especially because they trust us to still have their best interest and provide them the best care. This can be hard on some nurses if they know it is not the right decision and that it will affect the patient in a bad way, but they still cannot do anything about it.

Nevada State University. (2024, September 9). *Autonomy in nursing: Why does it matter?* Nevada State University School of Nursing. https://nevadastate.edu/son/rn-bsn/autonomy-in-nursing-why-does-it-matter/