

Journal #2—9-26-21

In nursing practice, we don't always think about the legality of the job. There are rules set by each state that nurses must follow. If there is an issue at any medical facility, the nurse and or doctor could be held liable. In this article from the nurses in professional development journal, different types of law are discussed. Civil law is used when a "tort" has been committed. An example of a tort would be "civil wrong or harm done to a person or its property" (Johnson & Smith, 2018). Malpractice is the most common issue that is addressed under civil law for nursing. Administrative law is the branch that would address license revoking (Johnson & Smith, 2018). Criminal law handles things like a nurse falsifying patient documents, stealing medications, or backdating information (Johnson & Smith, 2018). This week in class, we discussed the types of laws and courts, so this article relates to that content. This concept was difficult because it is hard to tell which issue goes with each law type. A concept that I thought was easier was incident reports and determining the difference between negligence, malpractice, and intentional torts. As a student nurse, I have learned that more about nursing and legal aspects in everyday practice.

Reference:

Johnson, C. S., & Smith, C. M. (2018). Preparing nurse leaders in nursing professional development. *Journal for Nurses in Professional Development*, 34(4), 226–227. <https://doi.org/10.1097/nnd.0000000000000442>