

SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING COUNCIL

ADVOCACY

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Points for discussion

- Introduction
- Advocacy
 - Definition
 - Need
 - Enforcement
- Closure

Advocacy

- **“advocacy”** means any action that speaks in favour of, recommends, argues for a cause, supports or defends, or pleads on behalf of others.
- **“Failure to advocate”** means **not** speaking in favour of, **not** recommending, **not** advancing a cause, **not** supporting or defending or **not** pleading **on behalf of your patient or any healthcare user**.
- **When last did you advocate?**

Advocacy

- **Advocacy in healthcare differs from the legal definition of advocacy, in law you plead on behalf of someone on the pretext of having been invited to do so. Health practitioners are not invited to take care for patients but have the privileged relationship with patients and they will act in the patients' interest.**
- **In clinical practice, advocacy is sometimes forced on us. Because the problem or issue is already there, we use advocacy to resolve, change or reduce the problem.**
- **The advocacy of the Nurse or Midwife is basic to the nature and purpose of nurse-patient relationship. It is in the relationship involving the Nurse/Midwife with the patient that advocacy(mediation) is practice**

Speak in favour of

- Barry Roux?

Recommending , advancing a couse

- What do you do when the Doctor comes by?
- What do you do when the Night Superintendent does not act?
- What do you do when you make an assessment and people don't believe you?
- What do you do if your assessment differs from that of the Doctor???

Supports or Defends

- Supports =
 - bear all or part of the weight of; hold up
 - give assistance to.
- Defends =
 - protect from harm or danger.

Pleads on behalf of others

- Make an emotional appeal
- Present and argue for

Do you have to ?

- Regulations
 - Scope of Practice
- SANC Code of Ethics for Nurses

Examples of unprofessional conduct

- ...You, being a Registered Nurse, are guilty of Unprofessional conduct in that on the 10th of April 2022 you failed to advocate for a patient under your care, namely Mrs Frail Condition when your colleagues also did nothing?
- Or When the Doctor misdiagnosed or gave the wrong prescription or, or, or

Enforcement

- You've all heard the story: It's the law.
- But more than that is it not the foundation of nursing?
- Is that not what we can be proud of?

Closure

- Lets all go back and promote advocacy - it's the core of caring, is that not what is lacking from so many hospitals and Nurses.

😊Thank – you😊