



Heightening Professional Boundaries

Post-Quiz Answers

- 1. Boundaries are important because they:**
 - a. Help me to be professional
 - b. Put my patient's needs first
 - c. Protect my patient
 - d. All of the above**

- 2. Boundaries are there to prevent me from:**
 - a. Having fun with my patient
 - b. Gaining personally from my patient**
 - c. Taking direction from my patient
 - d. Being compassionate and caring

- 3. When faced with a boundary issue:**
 - a. I ignore it and hope that it will go away
 - b. Do what the patient wants me to do
 - c. Follow my heart because I know what is right
 - d. Speak with my supervisor**

- 4. The main person responsible for keeping the boundary in place is:**
 - a. My supervisor
 - b. My patient
 - c. Myself**
 - d. Both a & c**

- 5. Professional boundaries exist to protect:**
 - a. The patient
 - b. The professional
 - c. Both a & b**

- 6. What three elements give you your professional power?**
 - a. Your academic training or knowledge; your skills and expertise; and your registration with the College**
 - b. Your employment; your lab coat; and your registration with the College
 - c. Your knowledge; your seniority; and your skills and expertise
 - d. Your employment; your seniority; and your skills and expertise

7. Who determines appropriate professional behaviours?

- a. Federal laws
- b. Provincial legislation
- c. Your employer
- d. All of the above**

8. What is a professional boundary?

- a. The limits that allow for a safe connection between you and your patient**
- b. The footprint of the health facility in which you work
- c. There are no professional boundaries
- d. What your patient tells you is OK

9. Which of the following activities are potential professional boundary crossings or violations? (Check all that apply)

- a. Technologist discusses personal problems with a person in his/her care**
- b. Technologist discusses feelings of sexual attraction with his/her patient**
- c. Technologist spends an inappropriate amount of time with a particular person in his/her care**
- d. Technologist fails to explain actions and aspects of care with a particular patient to colleagues**

10. Which of the following activities are potential professional boundary crossings or violations? (Check all that apply)

- a. Technologist advocates strongly for the patient's interests and well-being
- b. Technologist swaps shifts to be with a particular patient**
- c. Technologist employs off-colour jokes or offensive language**
- d. Technologist fails to recognize the development of a sexual attraction with a person in his/her care**

11. If a technologist observes a professional boundary violation in a colleague, what should he/she do? (Check all that apply)

- a. Ignore it as it is none of his/her business
- b. Document incidents in a timely manner**
- c. Consult with trusted supervisor or colleague**
- d. Comply with legal and ethical mandates in reporting violations**

Since the safety of people receiving care is the first priority, the technologist needs to be prepared to deal with violations by any member of the healthcare team.

12. What is the safest course of action for a technologist to take when he/she has violated professional boundaries with a person in his/her care? (Check all that apply)

- a. Try harder to re-establish the boundaries and continue providing care
- b. Find alternative care for the person**
- c. Ensure a proper handover of care**
- d. Ensure the person does not feel that they are in the wrong as a result of the handover of care**

The technologist should find alternate care for the person, ensure a proper handover and make sure that the patient does not feel at fault for the change.

13. What should a technologist do when a person in his/her care displays sexual interest and behaviour towards him/her? (Check all that apply)

- a. Ignore it, this is part of working with people
- b. Play along as it will likely have therapeutic benefits
- c. Discuss their feelings in a constructive manner and attempt to re-establish a professional relationship
- d. If re-establishment of a professional relationship is not possible, transfer the person's care to a colleague

The feelings should be discussed in a constructive manner and if re-establishment of a professional relationship is not possible, the person's care should be transferred to another technologist.

14. Which of following will help avoid misunderstandings and inappropriate conduct by the technologist? (Check all that apply)

- a. Honoring confidentiality**
- b. Being aware of what is culturally acceptable to different races and religions**
- c. Refraining from undue familiarity**
- d. Being aware that people may be vulnerable at times of crisis in their personal life**
- e. Discussing your personal problems with your patients

15. The principle that outlines a person's duty to act to benefit another is:

- a. Accountability
- b. Beneficence**
- c. Competency
- d. Non-maleficence

16. The ability to demonstrate the requisite knowledge, skills and attitudes of technologists beginning to practice is:

- a. Competence**
- b. Beneficence
- c. Accountability
- d. Intimacy

17. The duty to do no harm and to protect others from harm is:

- a. Non-maleficence**
- b. Beneficence
- c. Accountability
- d. Competence

18. Statements that outline acceptable requirements for determining the quality of care a patient receives are:

- a. Practice standards**
- b. Professional boundaries
- c. Accountability
- d. Competency profile

19. The faith placed in the technologist based on one's perceptions of his/her knowledge, skills and attributes is:

- a. Trust**
- b. Value
- c. Respect
- d. Power

20. The capacity to possess knowledge, to act and to influence events based on one's abilities, well-being, education, authority, place of other personal attributes and privileges is:

- a. Trust
- b. Value
- c. Respect
- d. Power**

21. Which of the following are warning signs that professional boundaries of the professional/patient relationship may be at risk? (Check all that apply)

- a. Frequently thinking of the patient when away from work**
- b. Frequently planning other patients' care around the patient's needs**
- c. Spending free time with the patient**
- d. Sharing personal information or work concerns with the patient**

22. If a patient about to be discharged suggests to the technologist that she would like to get together again if she feels depressed, what should the technologist's response be?

- a. It's okay as long as they meet in a public place
- b. Provide the patient with information about the crisis center**
- c. Suggest they go to the gym together to exercise
- d. Agree to meet with the patient at her convenience

23. Which is the most appropriate response if a patient hands you a box of chocolates after their exam?

- a. Thank you, I will enjoy these with my husband when I get home
- b. Thank you. I will take to the staff lounge for all to enjoy**
- c. I cannot accept gifts from patients
- d. I prefer flowers to chocolates, because I am on a diet

24. Ethically and legally, informed consent requires:

- a. Discussion of pertinent information**
- b. Patient's agreement to plan of care**
- c. Freedom from coercion**
- d. Caregiver preference and opinion

TRUE OR FALSE

25. Professional boundaries are the borders that mark the edges between a professional relationship and a non-professional or personal relationship between a technologist and a person in their care.

T

26. Professional boundary issues are only applicable to technologists involved in clinical relationships with patients.

F – They also apply in teaching relationships with students, working with research participants, managing staff and in working relationships with coworkers.

27. Use of the terms such as “dear”, “sweetheart” and others can potentially be offensive, demeaning and disrespectful.

T

28. Gifts should be refused if the technologist feels coerced or manipulated by the offer of the gift.

T – The technologist should tactfully explore the reasons for the offers and care should be altered as needed.

29. It is unlikely that the professional judgment of a technologist is affected when professional boundaries are crossed or breached.

F – The professional judgement of the worker may be impaired, resulting in the technologist losing his/her objectivity regarding the care and treatment of the person.

30. The patient knows what appropriate behaviour is during diagnosis and treatment.

F – The healthcare professional should know what is appropriate within the professional practice; the person being cared for likely does not.

31. It is the patient that influences the level of intimacy or physical contact during the therapeutic and diagnostic processes.

F – It is the healthcare professional who influences the level of intimacy or physical contact.

32. Ideas about what is intimate or appropriate are similar across cultures.

F – There are considerable differences so the technologist should be sensitive to this and treat people in a way that reflects their wishes and views and preserves their dignity.

33. Boundary violations can result in discipline in the work setting or by the College, and may in some cases be accompanied by criminal charges.

T

34. Boundary violations are issues of professional misconduct that must be reported in practice settings to protect patient care.

T – Boundary violations are acts of abuse that betray a professional/patient relationship.

35. A technologist can have a personal relationship with a former patient.

T – However, the technologist should consider the patient’s overall health status including competence, mental and emotional well-being, the potential for confusion between a therapeutic and personal relationship and any harm to the patient or significant others which confusion could cause.

36. A technologist is responsible for ensuring that professional caring and social relationships are not confused with one another.

T

37. Professional boundaries are fixed and usually clearly defined by relevant law, code of ethics and practice standards.

F – Healthy professional boundaries are flexible within the bounds of relevant law and sound professional judgement.

38. Technologists are expected to avoid personal bias when collecting, interpreting and communicating information about those in their care.

T

39. Relationships with patients have both the power to heal and the power to harm.

T

40. Professional boundaries are limits that protect the space between the technologist’s professional power and the patient’s vulnerability.

T



