



Ministry of Health

Professional Code of Ethics For

Nurse – Midwife

August 2019

Healthcare Professional Council



Lao People's Democratic Republic
Peace Independent Democracy Unity Prosperity

Ministry of Health

Healthcare Professional Council

No. 0147/ HCPC

Vientiane Capital, dated 02 August 2019

Decision

On

Endorsement of professional code of ethics for nurse-midwife

Pursuant to Healthcare professional licensing and registration system strategy of Lao PDR 2016-2020 No. 2098/MOH, dated 03 December 2015;

Pursuant to Minister Decision on healthcare professional council No. 0131/MOH, dated 19 January 2017;

Pursuant to a proposal and discussion of the nurse-midwifery professional committee.

President of Healthcare Professional Council agreed:

- Article1. Agree to endorse the professional code of ethics of nurse- midwife
- Article2. Delegate the healthcare profession council, nurse-midwife professional committee to be focal point and coordinate with concerned parties for implementation of dissemination, training on this healthcare professional ethics of nurse-midwife, also provide monitoring and inspection for the implementation of healthcare professional ethics of nurse-midwife for an effectiveness and efficiency.
- Article3. Delegate the Ministry of health cabinet office, Health Care and rehabilitation department, health Personnel, health professional education department, the health care profession committees (boards) of health care profession council, University of health science, hospitals, center, institution, all concerned parties together to implement this decision in your own individual specific responsibility.
- Article4. This decision will be effective from the signatory date.

President of Healthcare Professional Council

Dr. Ponemek Daraloy

Document has been delivered to:

- | | | |
|--|-------------|--------|
| 1. President, vice president of health care profession council | each person | 1 set |
| 2. Member of nurse midwife health care professional committee | each person | 1 set |
| 3. The health care profession bureau | | 1 set |
| 4. MOH Cabinet office | | 1 set |
| 5. UHS, hospital, centers, each | | 1 set |
| 6. Copy for filing | | 2 sets |

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Healthcare Professional code of ethic for Nurse-midwife

Introduction

Nurse-midwife health care profession code of ethic has a specific important such: the way has a mercy to help people with mental and physical illness to enable them to have a healthy life, reduce anxiety, and able to stand with the events that happened in individual life a with warm heart and hopefulness and then can get back to their normal life, known how to take care their health in a normal condition. Aside from devotion, contribute physical and mental effort, the nurse-midwife still need to be with a skillful, competent, technology ability, and mixing of other knowledge for a patient care.

To the extent of social change and the advance of medical science and technology has impacted in different dimension to people's living including illness, impact to living lifestyle and to nurse-midwife's health care provision. Because at current situation, health care recipient need better quality of health care, which is challenging to the implementation of the roles of nurse-midwife and might not be able to avoid the ethical issue that is related to the decision making in providing nurse-midwife health care service to meet the demand of the patient.

Determination of code of ethics for nurse-midwife has the objective to be as a reference for nurse-midwife in their behaviors and implementation for their own and others, to be a guide for their decision and implementation of nurse-midwife care, promotion on protection of basic right for nurse-midwife, patient, family and society to be safe, more than that, the code of ethics still promote the standard, quality of nurse-midwife health care to be accepted and gain a trust from society.

This nurse-midwife code of ethics has been developed for nurse-midwife in Lao P.R.D which consists of nurse-midwife code of ethics to society and country, nurse-midwife code of ethics to people/patient, nurse-midwife code of ethics to self-reflection, nurse-midwife code of ethics to health care profession, nurse-midwife code of ethics to nurse-midwife and nurse-midwife code of ethics to other health care profession. The contents is related to nurse-midwife at all level, all areas, such: implementation of nurse-midwife, management of nurse-midwife, research on nurse-midwife. The determined nurse-midwife code of ethics is a principles and standard which is based on human rights, law on health care, nurse-midwife regulation, national social- economic and culture policies.

1. Objective

- 1) To determine the standard of nurse-midwife ethic
- 2) To be as a reference for nurse-midwife in their behaviors, action to self, occupation and others
- 3) To be as a guide for decision and implementation of nurse-midwife health care
- 4) To provide protection for nurse-midwife, patients, family and society to be safe

2. Nurse-midwife code of ethics to society and country

- 1) To implement the nurse-midwife health in line with the Ministry of health's policy and ensure the benefits of patient or people.
- 2) High responsibility with people to support the health promotion that aims for peace and upgrading the quality of life
- 3) Maintain and promote the beauty of nation historical culture.

3. Nurse-midwife code of ethics to people/patient
 - 1) Stay alert in implementation the profession, pay attention to value and dignity of human.
 - 2) Implement the service to people with equality base on human right without concerning of race, religion, status of individual.
 - 3) Avoid implementation with negative perspective and use of position' power for personal gain.
 - 4) Disclose the disease, individual identification confidentiality of patient strictly especially in living and died patient in order to protect patient benefit, except only the case of consent or law enforcement.
 - 5) Implement the profession by using the nurse-midwife health care knowledge, ability and using nursing process (patient assessment, nursing diagnosis, planning, implementation, and nursing service assessment) in health care and solving the problem.

4. Nurse-midwife ethic to self-reflection.
 - 1) Behave and implement the profession in line with nurse-midwife health care regulation and law.
 - 2) Steady stay with profession moral and ethic
 - 3) To be a good role model in both profession careers and personal life.
 - 4) Keen to learn and develop optimistic vision and accept the changes
 - 5) Implement the profession responsively with all willingness and full capacity
 - 6) Implement the role with alert, knowledge, confident and courteous
 - 7) Prevent and manage the health safety which might be impacted from the action with lack of knowledge, lack of moral or action which against the law by others.

5. Nurse-midwife code of ethics to profession
 - 1) Pay attention to role and responsibility of nurse-midwife health care professional principles
 - 2) Implement the nurse-midwife health care with profession standard
 - 3) Develop knowledge and implementation methods to meet profession standard
 - 4) Believe, support stay still in continue profession development
 - 5) Contribution to professional activity
 - 6) Build and maintain the appropriate right in implementation of nurse-midwife health care
 - 7) Disseminate the reputation and value of nurse-midwife health care to the society.

6. Nurse-midwife ethic to nurse-midwife
 - 1) Maintain good relationship with peer in same profession
 - 2) Accept the basic demand of human and promote for appropriate implementation
 - 3) Facilitate and cooperate with colleague in implementation.
 - 4) Avoid promotion or protect the person who missed-implement for their own gain.

7. Nurse-midwife ethic to other profession
 - 1) Honor, respect the rights and roles of other profession
 - 2) Value and reward the one who has knowledge in different profession
 - 3) Maintain the good relationship with the colleague from other profession
 - 4) Accept the basic need of people and promote the appropriate action
 - 5) Facilitate and cooperate with colleague from other profession
 - 6) Avoid promotion or protect the person who missed-implement for their own gain
 - 7) Cooperate with health profession member and others in the society in order to develop the community and support the need of health sanitation and society.

8. Terminology interpretation

- 1) Ethical rule: means a disciplinary regulations of behavior that people should behave to be as appropriate consideration and cognition person.
- 2) Etiquette: means a courtesy that person should behave in a team such as: medical ethic, nurse-midwife ethic, teacher ethic.
- 3) Code of ethic: means a summary of identified behaviors of each professions in order to respect dignity, reputation and status of members, which might be written such: nurse-midwife ethic as well as the summary of behaviors which the nursing organization identified to be as a guide for nurse to implement accordingly.
- 4) Moral: means a good behave, appropriate behave which mainly use in the religioned meaning to implement accordingly.
- 5) Virtue: means the quality of behavior and mental perception such: no lie, devotion, patience and responsiveness,
- 6) Conscience: means a feeling of right or wrong, evil, goodness, knowledge of what should do and what should not do.
- 7) Courtesy: mean control of manner and communication such: ways of standing, walking, sitting, receiving and sending thing, paying respect, expression, eating, receiving and providing services, greeting, discussion, using words, using of communication tools including behavior in the ceremonies.
- 8) Right of patient: means the right that has been acknowledged in the civilization country to be as a basic and necessary right for living a full dignity of being a human, and necessary for the development of human character and be a right to be protected by law. Nobody should violate each other right. Any people born in any tribe should have personal right of their physical, believe and choice of living.

Vientiane Capital, dated 02 August 2019

President of Healthcare Profession Council

Dr. Ponemek Daraloy