

Canadian Medical Association Code of Ethics 2004

Relevant Clauses

43. Recognize the responsibility of physicians to promote equitable access to health care resources.

44. Use health care resources prudently.

Source: Canadian Medical Association (2004). Code of Ethics. Available from http://www.cma.ca/index.cfm/ci_id/53556/la_id/1.htm

Canadian Nursing Association Code of Ethics 2008

Relevant Clauses

Nursing Values and Ethical Responsibilities

F. Promoting Justice

4. Nurses make fair decisions about the allocation of resources under their control based on the needs of persons, groups or communities to whom they are providing care. They advocate for fair treatment and for fair distribution of resources for those in their care.

Appendix D: Applying the Code in Selected Circumstances

Ethical Considerations for Nurses in a Natural or Human-Made Disaster, Communicable Disease Outbreak or Pandemic

... When demands on the health-care system are excessive, material resources may be in short supply and nurses and other health-care providers may be at risk. ...

- A. In anticipation of the need for nursing care in a disaster or disease outbreak, nurses:
- Learn about and provide input into the guidelines the region, province or country has established regarding which persons are to receive priority in care (e.g., priority based on greatest need, priority based on probability of a good outcome, and so on);
 - ...
 - Assist in developing a fair way to settle conflicts or disputes regarding work exemptions or exemptions from the prophylaxis or vaccination of staff
- B. When in the midst of a disaster or disease outbreak, nurses have an ethical obligation to:
- Help make the fairest decisions possible about the allocation of resources;
 - Help set priorities in as transparent a manner as possible;
 - ...

Source: Canadian Nurses Association (2008). Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses. Available from http://www.cna-aicc.ca/CNA/practice/ethics/code/default_e.aspx

