

FOREWORD

E*thics and Professionalism for Healthcare Managers* by Elizabeth J. Forrestal and Leigh W. Cellucci enables readers—both current and future healthcare managers—to take confident steps forward on their paths to career development and success. A thoughtful read of this text can illuminate the shadowy, gray areas of ethical dilemmas, bringing the best decision for any given situation to light. Forrestal and Cellucci are wise to discuss professionalism and ethics together because of the many ethically ambiguous situations that healthcare professionals handle on a regular basis.

Specifically written for undergraduates, this text avoids fluff and gets straight to the point in a way that is commensurate with students' experiences. The authors bridge the gap between academia and practice by bringing to the discussion their combined expertise in working with both students and healthcare professionals as well as presenting research material in an accessible way. This approach inspires professionalism, motivating readers to learn from practical, real-life examples and ponder key questions, such as What is professionalism? Why is it important to act professionally? What does ethical behavior look like? The book fosters critical thinking skills as well, as it addresses important topics and questions that arise in various healthcare settings. Each chapter builds on the content of previous chapters, which instills curiosity and encourages forward movement in personal and professional growth.

Preparing the healthcare workforce of the future requires a combination of inspiration, motivation, and sharing discipline-specific content. With its direct approach and applied exercises, this text can help guide readers in the right direction. Case studies from multiple perspectives, case questions, reflective self-quizzes, and chapter exercises enable

readers to engage with the material and aid in teaching them how to solve real-world dilemmas.

Professionalism, ethics, and “walking the talk” are particularly important in this twenty-first century cultural milieu. Too often, students and working professionals encounter unethical practices, such as plagiarism, exaggerated skills or achievements on a resume, or tacitly condoning a wrongdoing by not saying something. This text provides guidance and tools so that current and future healthcare managers can expand their perceptual skills and develop their understanding of the ethical implications of a decision or policy on all stakeholders in the system and the community at large.

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