Ethical Decision Making in Nursing and Health Care: The Symphonological Approach

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Husted and Husted’s classic text provides a systematic approach to bioethical decision making that can help clarify situations where “right” and “wrong” are not clearly defined. Based on the interaction of health professional and patient, this approach focuses on well-being and the right to self-direction for both. Numerous case studies provide practice in bioethical decision making, with nearly 50 case studies analyzed in detail.

This fourth edition includes two new chapters, along with a teacher’s online manual for enhanced pedagogy: The first new chapter describes the four traditional ethical systems and how they pertain to interaction in the health care setting while the second new chapter expands upon the importance of context. The final chapter on “Symphonology” has been revised for use by master’s and doctoral students, with numerous other chapters revised or rearranged, and various teaching tools updated - from chapter-ending questions to dilemmas and case studies. Nurse educators and their students, practicing nurses, physicians and allied health professionals will find this book an invaluable resource, now and into the future.

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