



March 6, 2020

ANA Center for Ethics and Human Rights Advisory Board
American Nurses Association
8515 Georgia Ave #400,
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear ANA Center for Ethics and Human Rights Advisory Board:

APNA applauds ANA's work in seeking input regarding ethical environments and patient and personal safety. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Here is a summary of comments received from the APNA Council for Safe Environments:

Nurses Professional Responsibility to Promote Ethical Practice Environments

Two of the recommendations read:

1. Promote and create a restraint-free culture across all settings.
2. Implement alternatives and less restrictive measures to use of restraints, such as electronic remote observation for 1:1 continuous patient observation.

The APNA Council for Safe Environments would recommend re-wording these recommendations to:

1. Promote and continually work towards a restraint-free culture.
2. Implement alternatives and less restrictive measures to the use of restraints, such as de-stimulating the environment, sensory modulation interventions, engaging with the patient, reducing stimulation, education for staff regarding training on de-escalation techniques and communication.

We feel that the example of an alternative (electronic remote observation) is too limiting.

Thanks again for the opportunity to provide input. Please contact me with any questions at Lnguyen@apna.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa Nguyen".

Lisa Deffenbaugh Nguyen, MS, CAE
Executive Director
American Psychiatric Nurses Association