Based on my study, the nurse actualizing authentic leadership
the nurse encouraging virtuous integrity
the nurse fostering the humane side to patient care
the nurse promoting a dignified death for a patient

The Experience of Accelerated Nursing Program Graduates Utilizing Ethics in Their Nursing Practice (2016)

Purpose
This study aimed to illuminate the meaning of the experiences of accelerated nursing program graduates utilizing ethics in their nursing practice.

Introduction
This study considered accelerated nursing program graduates who recognize that they are trained to become nurses in a more abbreviated timeframe than the typical registered nurse (RN) preparation program. Therefore, they may not have the time necessary for growth as a professional nurse. The phenomenon of this study was ethical nursing practice within the context of accelerated nursing program graduates and their practice.

Methodology / Implementation
This study, based on hermeneutic phenomenology, asked: What is the experience of accelerated nursing program graduates utilizing ethics in their nursing practice? Using van Manen’s phenomenological method, 10 accelerated nursing program graduates were interviewed to illuminate their lived experience of utilizing ethics in their nursing practice.

Evaluation / Results
Five essential themes emerged:
1. The nurse serving as a patient advocate
2. The nurse promoting a dignified death for a patient
3. The nurse fostering the humane side to patient care
4. The nurse encouraging virtuous integrity
5. The nurse actualizing authentic leadership

Implications for Nursing
Nursing Ethics
- Must be social ethics
- Needs to be concerned with policies and structures related to the healthcare environment

Three distinct findings:
- Report learning ethics while attending the accelerated program
- Presence of an innate sense of ethics prior to attending the accelerated program
- Evidence of the employment of the use of ethics in their nursing practice

"This study demonstrated evidence of the utilization of ethics in practice"

The Siciliano-McLaughlin Model of Ethics

AUTHENTICITY
DIGNITY
INTEGRITY
LEADERSHIP
HUMANITY
ADVOCACY

The Siciliano-McLaughlin Model of Ethics

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AUTHENTICITY
Centrally located—provides the central framework around which the components of ethical education should occur

Three characteristics
1. Person needs to be fully aware of the present moment
2. The person lives in the moment by choosing how to live one’s life
3. The person needs to take responsibility for the choice

Defining attributes of authenticity
- Self-discovery, realize personal potential, accept responsibility for actions & consequences, suffering may be involved, congruence in ideals, values, and actions in relation to self and others, life-long process

FIVE COMPONENTS OF THE MODEL SURROUNDING AUTHENTICITY

DIGNITY: Nurses have the ability and great opportunity to promote dignity in patients for whom they care, despite facing many needs and challenges. This includes nurses being comfortable with death when providing end-of-life care.

HUMANITY: Nurses should provide professional care that is both human and humane, despite the patient’s current social situation and lifestyle choices.

INTEGRITY: Nurses should act with integrity, specifically virtue integrity, where the person chooses to do the right thing.

LEADERSHIP: Authentic leaders need to live by ideals and principles, possess courage, and tend to do the right thing while promoting a favorable climate.

Conclusions/Recommendations
Nursing Education
- Integration of a virtue-ethics approach to develop individual values by teaching with the ethics model
- Incorporation of the five essential themes into the educational process
- Must teach core competencies along with theories
- Integration of case-based learning to support practical reasoning through the use of critical thinking

Nursing Practice
- Accountability is imperative for ethical practice
- Utilization of the model in practice

Nursing Research
- Replication with other cohorts (prelicensure, advanced practice)
- Future quantitative study
- Transferability to other professional fields outside of nursing

Check out my blog, The Ethical Nurse
https://theethicalnurse.blogspot.com/