SVSH Boundaries Awareness (2022) Script

Version 12/15/23

1. Introduction

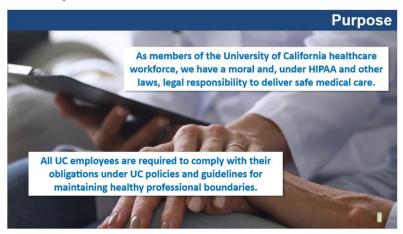
1.1 Introduction



Introduction

Welcome to the University of California's online Campus Health Professional Boundary training. This course was created for healthcare workers within Student Health Services (SHS) and Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS).

1.2 Purpose



Purpose

As members of the University of California healthcare workforce, we have a moral and, under HIPAA and other laws, legal responsibility to deliver safe medical care. Maintaining professional boundaries ensures that patients, providers, and all members of the related healthcare organizations are kept safe as services are provided.

Here at the UC, all employees within healthcare organizations related to the institution are required to comply with their obligations under UC policies and guidelines for maintaining healthy professional boundaries.

1.3 How to use



How to use

Before we begin, please note that you can read the information presented (without having to listen to the narrator) at any time by selecting the "Script" tab. To disable the audio, select the sound icon at the bottom.

Also, this is an interactive tutorial. You will often be prompted to select an area, or make a decision, before proceeding to the next section of the course.

If you cannot access content or use features in this training due to a disability or other accessibilityrelated issue, please complete the Accessibility Needs Request form located in the "Resources" tab of your training player.

1.4 Menu

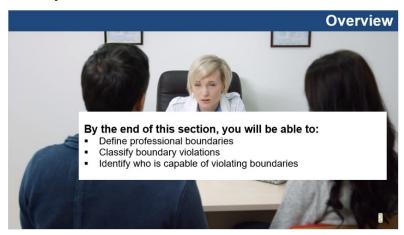


Menu

In this training, you will learn to define professional boundaries, establish a safety culture, respond to boundary violations, and locate resources for your campus location. To begin, select "Overview".

2. Overview

2.1 Objectives



Objectives

By the end of this section, you will be able to:

- Define professional boundaries
- Classify boundary violations
- Identify who is capable of violating boundaries

2.2 Professional Boundaries Definition



Professional Boundaries Definition

Whenever a patient enters a clinical space, they are bound to interact with healthcare workers, whether physically, verbally, or in written form. Professional boundaries are the lines separating healthy interactions from unhealthy interactions. These boundaries are supported by consistent behaviors that are intended to protect healthcare providers, patients, and healthcare organizations.

Boundary violations occur when these behaviors or interactions become unhealthy.

2.3 Boundary Violations



Boundary Violations

Boundary violations can be described as behaviors, gestures, or expressions that are disrespectful of a patient or patient privacy.

This can include actions that are sexual or non-sexual in nature, whether they are intentional or not.

Select each box to learn more about the different types of boundary violations.

Sexual (Slide Layer)

Sexual Boundary Violations

Violations may include:

- · Inappropriate comments about a patient's body, clothing, or sexual orientation
- Conducting intimate exams or consultations without clinical justification
- · Soliciting a date or romantic relationship
- · Sexual violence or harassment



7

Sexual

Sexual boundary violations may include:

- Inappropriate comments made about a patient's body, clothing, or sexual orientation
- Conducting intimate exams or consultations without clinical justification
- Soliciting a date or romantic relationship between a healthcare worker and a patient
- Sexual violence or harassment

Non-Sexual (Slide Layer)

Non-Sexual Boundary Violations

Violations may include:

- · Giving or accepting gifts from patient
- · Revealing intimate details
- Intentional contact outside of professional relationship





Non-Sexual

Non-sexual boundary violations often involve behavior that would be appropriate in other contexts, but not in a clinical setting. This may include:

- Giving or accepting gifts from a patient
- Revealing intimate details to a patient
- Intentionally having contact with a patient outside of the professional relationship

Situational (Slide Layer)

Situational Boundary Violations

Violations may include:

- Unintentionally harmful interactions
- Appropriate relationships that become inappropriate over time



7

Situational

Not all boundary violations are intentional. Sometimes a healthcare worker may act unprofessionally but still have the patient's best interest in mind. This may lead to situational boundary violations, which are when appropriate relationships and interactions become inappropriate over time.

2.4 Potential Offenders



Potential Offenders

Who is at risk of violating professional boundaries? Select all that apply.

Correct (Slide Layer)



Correct

All healthcare providers and personnel are at risk of violating professional boundaries, even if they never intend to. Therefore, it is important to pay attention to behaviors that can potentially lead to unhealthy or inappropriate interactions with patients.

Those who violate professional boundaries are called offenders.

When you're ready, select "Next" to continue.

2.5 Access, Privacy, and Control



Access, Privacy, and Control

There are three things that someone must have for a boundary violation to occur: access, privacy, and control.

Whenever a healthcare worker possesses these three things in relation to a patient, there is potential for professional boundaries to be crossed.

Select each topic to learn more.

When you're ready, select "Next" to continue.

Access (Slide Layer)



Access

Many healthcare workers have access to patients through in-person communication or patient information. The frequency and duration of this access could lead to either intentional or unintentional boundary violations.

Privacy (Slide Layer)



Privacy

Privacy can be physical (e.g., an exam room) or virtual (e.g., electronic communication through social media). Not only can privacy lead to intentional or unintentional boundary violations, it can also make false allegations difficult to dispute.

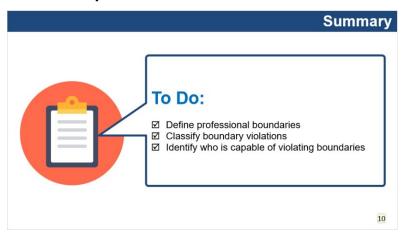
Control (Slide Layer)



Control

There is an imbalance of power between healthcare workers and patients. When someone takes advantage of this imbalance to pursue inappropriate interactions with a patient, boundary violations are likely to occur.

2.6 Summary



Summary

In summary, you should now be able to:

- Define professional boundaries
- Classify boundary violations
- Identify who is capable of violating boundaries

3. Establishing A Safety Culture

3.1 Objectives



Objectives

By the end of this section, you will be able to:

- Identify types of inappropriate behavior
- Distinguish boundary-crossing behaviors
- Apply best practices for patient-related interactions

3.2 Appropriate vs. Inappropriate Behaviors



Appropriate vs. Inappropriate Behaviors

Most boundary violations begin as minor inappropriate behaviors or blurred lines between appropriate and inappropriate conduct with patients. These should be viewed as warning signs that a staff member is in danger of crossing a professional boundary. Addressing these behaviors as soon as possible is key in preventing boundary violations. If not addressed, they may become increasingly inappropriate and lead to misconduct.

3.3 Types of Inappropriate Behavior

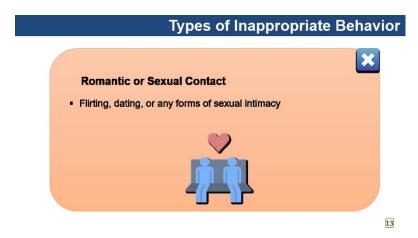


Types of Inappropriate Behavior

Boundary violation warning behaviors can appear in many different ways. To learn more about the most common types of warning behaviors to look out for when observing or engaging in patient-related interactions, select each topic below.

When you are ready, select "Next" to continue.

Romantic or Sexual Contact (Slide Layer)



Romantic or Sexual Contact

• Flirting, dating, or any forms of sexual intimacy

Personal Connections (Slide Layer)

Types of Inappropriate Behavior **Personal Connections** Connecting with a patient via social media or sharing personal contact information such as personal email or phone number Doing special favors for a patient

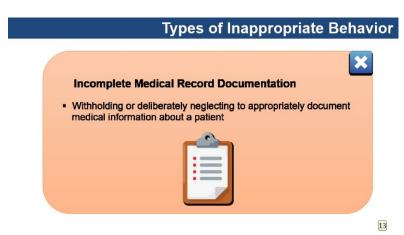
Personal Connections

• Connecting with a patient via social media or sharing personal contact information such as personal email or phone number

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• Doing special favors for a patient

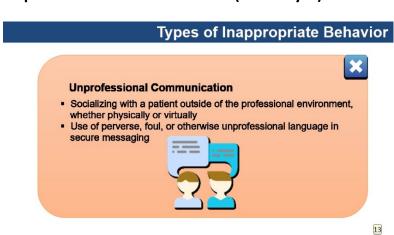
Incomplete Medical Record Documentation (Slide Layer)



Incomplete Medical Record Documentation

• Withholding or deliberately neglecting to appropriately document medical information about a patient

Unprofessional Communication (Slide Layer)



Unprofessional Socialization

- Socializing with a patient outside of the professional environment, whether physically or virtually
- Use of perverse, foul, or otherwise unprofessional language in secure messaging

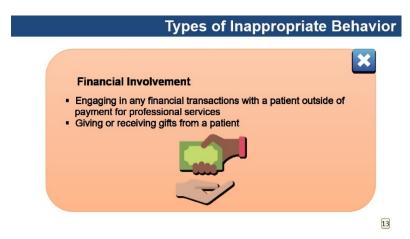
Inappropriate Self-Disclosure (Slide Layer)



Inappropriate Self-Disclosure

• Sharing intimate details with a patient regarding personal life issues with no clinical rational or purpose

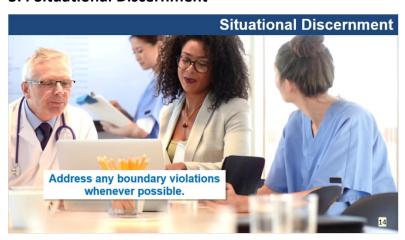
Financial Involvement (Slide Layer)



Financial Involvement

- Engaging in any financial transactions with a patient outside of payment for professional services
- Giving or receiving gifts from a patient

3.4 Situational Discernment



Situational Discernment

While exceptional situations may arise where it might be appropriate to cross a professional boundary, it is impossible to predict exactly which actions will lead to misconduct later on in the patient-provider relationship. So, it is important to recognize and address even the mildest forms of boundary violations whenever possible.

3.5 Elements to Consider

Elements to Consider
To determine if a behavior is crossing a professional boundary, consider the situation alongside the following elements.
Select each checkbox to learn more.
Examine Actions:
Consider Patient:
Perceive Relationship:
Imagine Outcomes:
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Elements to Consider

To determine if a behavior is crossing a professional boundary, consider the situation alongside the following elements.

Select each checkbox to learn more.

When you're ready, select "Next" to continue.

Examine Actions

 Carefully examine your own motives beliefs, words, and actions. Remember to seek objective insights from others by asking for feedback from supervisors and peers.

Consider Patient

• Consider how the patient likely views the relationship. You may do this through observation, discussions with the patient's healthcare providers, or by reviewing documentation.

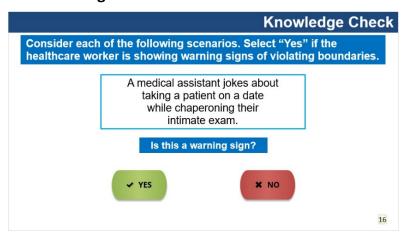
Perceive Relationship

• Think about how others would view the relationship.

Imagine Outcomes

• Imagine the outcomes that will most likely result from the current patient-provider or coworker-tocoworker relationship. Is this outcome desirable or undesirable? Is this the best possible outcome for everyone involved?

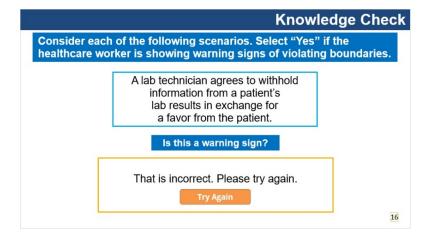
3.6 Knowledge Check



Knowledge Check

Consider each of the following scenarios. Select "Yes" if the healthcare worker is showing warning signs of violating boundaries.

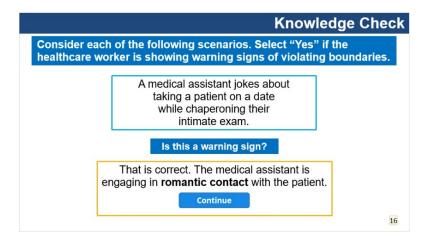
Incorrect (Slide Layer)



Incorrect

That is incorrect. Please try again.

Correct (Medical Assistant) (Slide Layer)

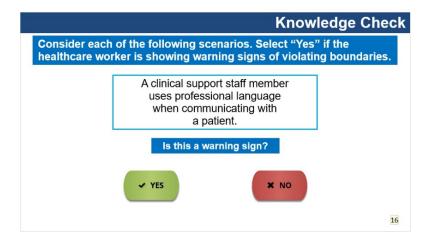


Correct (Medical Assistant)

That is correct. The medical assistant is engaging in romantic contact with the patient. This is a warning sign.

Select "Continue" to proceed.

Question (Support Staff) (Slide Layer)

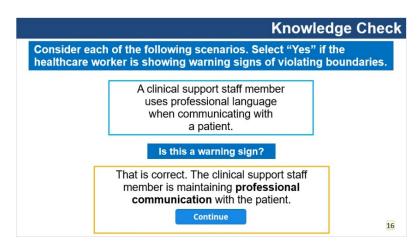


Question (Support Staff)

A clinical support staff member uses professional language when communicating with a patient.

Is this a warning sign? Yes or no?

Correct (Support Staff) (Slide Layer)

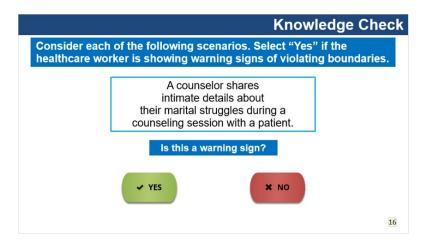


Correct (Support Staff)

That is correct. The clinical support staff member is maintaining professional communication with the patient. This is not a warning sign.

Select "Continue" to proceed.

Question (Counselor) (Slide Layer)

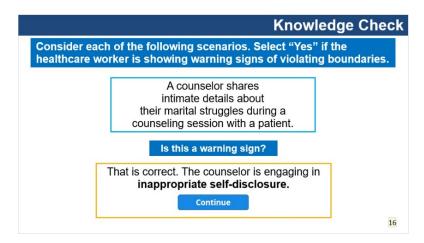


Question (Counselor)

A counselor shares intimate details about their marital struggles during a counseling session with a patient.

Is this a warning sign? Yes or no?

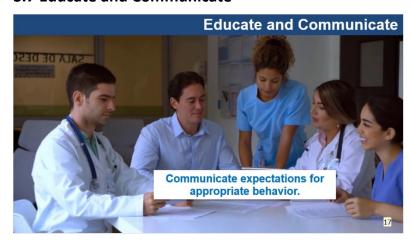
Correct (Counselor) (Slide Layer)



Correct (Counselor)

That is correct. The counselor is engaging in inappropriate self-disclosure. This is a warning sign. Select "Continue" to proceed.

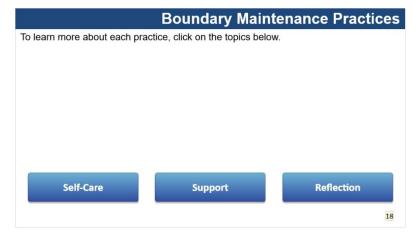
3.7 Educate and Communicate



Educate and Communicate

Communication is key to the establishment of safety culture in your workplace. It is important for everyone to be educated about what professional boundaries are, and how they are expected to behave. This may be done through written policies, workplace training, professional development, or one-on-one conversations.

3.8 Boundary Maintenance Practices



Boundary Maintenance Practices

Here are some best practices that healthcare workers should apply to ensure that they are upholding healthy boundaries.

To learn more about each practice, select the topics below.

Self-Care

The most important first step toward building and maintaining healthy professional boundaries is taking care of yourself.

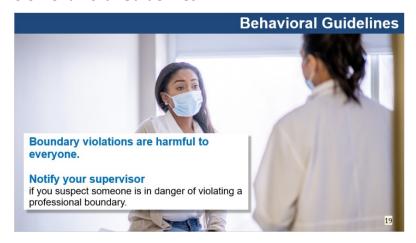
Support

It can be difficult for healthcare providers to impartially evaluate their own behaviors. Supervisors can assess your interactions and provide feedback about any warning signs you may have missed. It is also important to remember that other healthcare workers in your community are experiencing similar issues. Seek out regular meetings with your peers to exchange ideas and discuss experiences.

Reflection

Thinking critically about your actions on a regular basis allows you to see trends in your behavior and attitudes that could otherwise get overlooked in everyday occurrences. This will help you to prevent boundary violations that could harm patients and yourself.

3.9 Behavioral Guidelines

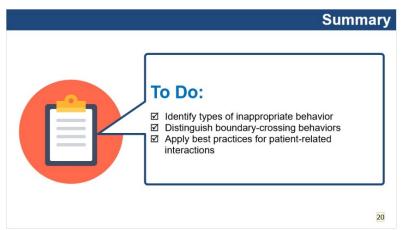


Behavioral Guidelines

Remember, boundary violations are harmful to those involved, as well as those surrounding them. Even if you do not have direct contact with patients, you have a responsibility as a member of the healthcare system to help maintain a culture of safety.

If you suspect that you, or anyone else in your workplace is in danger of violating a professional boundary, it is best to seek guidance from your supervisor as soon as possible.

3.10 Summary



Summary

In summary, you should now be able to:

- Identify types of inappropriate behavior
- Distinguish boundary-crossing behaviors
- Apply best practices for patient-related interactions

4. Reporting Procedures

4.1 Objectives



Objectives

By the end of this section, you will be able to:

- Recognize your role as a healthcare worker
- Respond to boundary violations
- Recognize legal reporting requirements

4.2 Roles & Responsibilities



Roles & Responsibilities

As a healthcare worker, you are an advocate for those who receive care from your facility as well as those who contribute to the delivery of that care. It is your responsibility to help maintain a culture of safety in your organization. This includes recognizing and addressing inappropriate behaviors before they become boundary violations.

Due to the power dynamic between patients and healthcare workers, you may be held liable for any boundary violations, even if a patient initiated the contact. Therefore, it is in everyone's best interest to understand and maintain healthy boundaries.

4.3 Address Inappropriate Behavior



Address Inappropriate Behavior

There are five steps you can take to address inappropriate behavior.

Select each number to see the steps.

Address the Offender(s)

Do not allow the behavior to continue without being addressed.

Identify the Concern

Specify the exact part(s) of the behavior that are harmful.

Explain Why

Explain why the behavior is inappropriate.

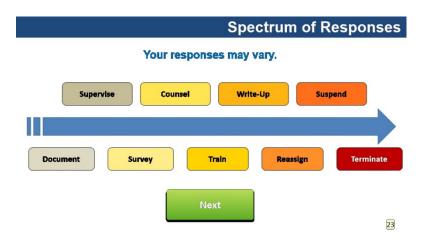
Stop and Redirect Behavior

Stop the inappropriate behavior from reoccurring and engage in more appropriate actions.

Report Incident

If necessary, notify your supervisor, state authorities, licensing boards, and/or local law enforcement and complete an official incident report.

Spectrum of Responses (Slide Layer)



Spectrum of Responses

Remember, although unprofessional behavior should be avoided whenever possible, exceptional situations may arise where it might be appropriate to cross a professional boundary. Therefore, your responses may vary depending on the situations that you may encounter. Not every situation will require that you use all five steps, but your response will most likely fit within the range from documenting the incident to the termination of employment for the personnel involved.

4.4 Mandated Reporting



Mandated Reporting

In the state of California, all healthcare providers are legally mandated to report suspected or confirmed abuse as soon as they know or suspect that it has occurred.

Remember that you have a responsibility to recognize and respond to inappropriate behavior, regardless of how much contact you may have with the victim. You are not required to actually witness abuse prior to reporting it to the authorities.

Mandated reporting requirements include children up to the age of 18, dependent adults between the ages of 18 and 64, and elder adults over the age of 64.

4.5 How to Report



How to Report

Call the Police Department for cases of assault or if there is immediate danger of abuse.

Reports must be made immediately after observing or forming a reasonable suspicion of abuse, or as soon as practically possible, by phone.

4.6 File an External Report



File an External Report

To submit an external report, you must:

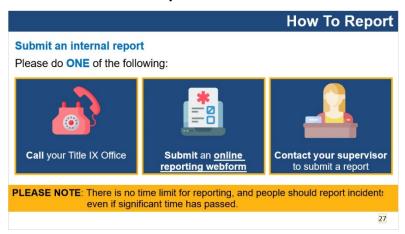
1. Call by Phone

Call your campus Title IX office to report an incident as soon as possible.

2. Submit a written report

Complete and submit an online reporting form as soon as possible to document the incident and begin the official response process.

4.7 Submit Internal Report



Submit Internal Report

To submit an internal report, you must do one of the following:

- Call the Title IX Office for your location
- Submit an online reporting form
- Contact your supervisor to submit a report

Please Note: There is no time limit for reporting, and people should report incidents even if significant time has passed.

4.8 UC Reporting Guidelines



UC Reporting Guidelines

The University of California encourages all members of the healthcare environment to report observed or suspected misconduct – even those who are not mandated reporters.

You can contact your campus Title IX Office or make an internal report to your supervisor.

Supervisors, senior administrators, and other University personnel must forward reports to the Title IX Office for your location.

4.9 Summary



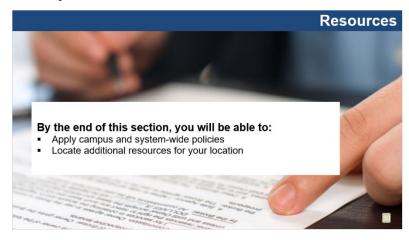
Summary

In summary, you should now be able to:

- Recognize your role as a healthcare worker
- Respond to boundary violations
- Recognize legal reporting requirements

5. Resources

5.1 Objectives

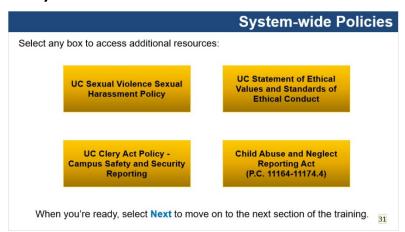


Objectives

By the end of this section, you will be able to:

- Apply campus and system-wide policies
- Locate additional resources for your location

5.2 System-Wide Policies



System-Wide Policies

Select any box to access additional resources.

When you're ready, select "Next" to move on to the next section of the training.

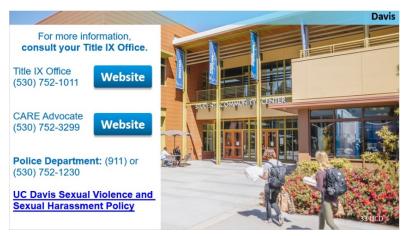
5.3 Location



Location

For more site-specific information, select your campus or location.

5.4 Davis



Davis

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.5 Berkeley

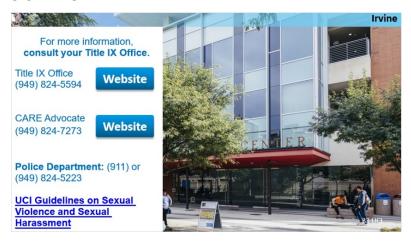


Berkeley

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.6 Irvine



Irvine

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.7 San Diego

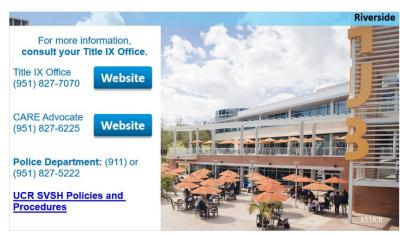


San Diego

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.8 Riverside

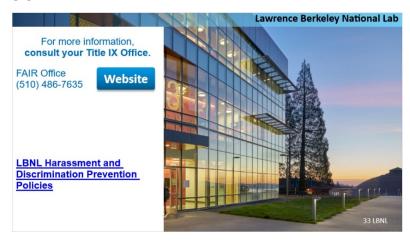


Riverside

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.9 LBNL

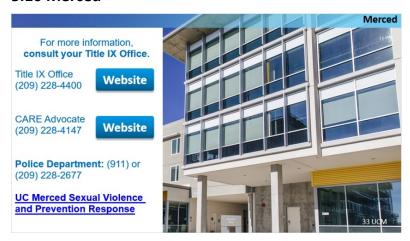


LBNL

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.10 Merced

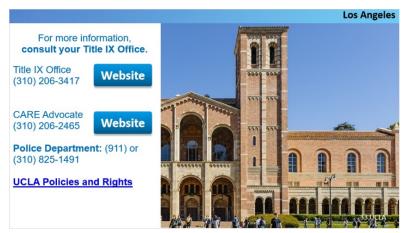


Merced

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.11 Los Angeles

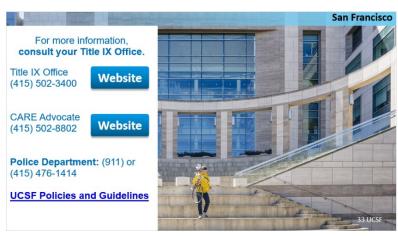


Los Angeles

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.12 San Francisco



San Francisco

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.13 ANR

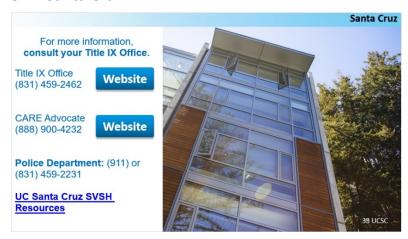


ANR

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.14 Santa Cruz



Santa Cruz

For more information, view CANRA resources at your location. Or Contact Police or your Ethics & **Compliance Officer**

When you are ready, select "next" to continue.

5.15 Santa Barbara



Santa Barbara

For more information, consult your Title IX Office. You may also contact Police or your local CARE Advocate.

When you're ready, select "next" to continue.

5.16 Summary



Summary

In summary, you should now be able to:

- Apply campus and system-wide policies
- Locate additional resources for your location

6. Conclusion

6.1 Summary



Summary

There is a shared responsibility among healthcare workers to deliver safe and quality care. You should now be able to define professional boundaries, establish safety culture, respond to boundary violations, and locate additional resources for your location.

6.2 For More Information



More Information

For more information, please contact your local Title IX Office. To receive credit for this course, you must complete the test. When you're ready, proceed to take test.

6.3 Question 1

(Multiple Choice, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)



Question 1

What are professional boundaries? Select the best response.

- The dividers between different healthcare facilities
- The lines between healthy and unhealthy interactions
- The differences between doctors and nurses
- The lines between verbal and written interactions

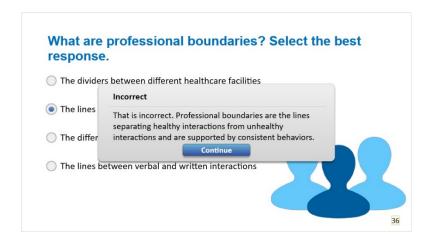
Correct (Slide Layer)



Feedback when correct:

That's correct! Professional boundaries are the lines separating healthy interactions from unhealthy interactions and are supported by consistent behaviors.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)



Feedback when incorrect:

That is incorrect. Professional boundaries are the lines separating healthy interactions from unhealthy interactions and are supported by consistent behaviors.

6.4 Question 2

(Multiple Response, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)



Question 2

Select each scenario where a healthcare worker is showing warning signs of violating a boundary.

- A medical assistant jokes about taking a patient on a date while chaperoning their intimate exam.
- A clinical support staff member uses professional language when communicating with a patient.
- A counselor shares intimate details about their marital struggles during a counseling session with a patient.
- A receptionist is interacting with a patient on their personal social media account.

Correct (Slide Layer)



Feedback when correct:

That's correct! Romantic contact, inappropriate self-disclosure, and personal connections are all warning signs of professional boundary violations.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

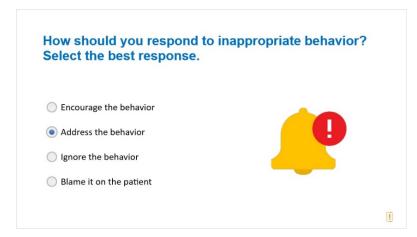


Feedback when incorrect:

That is incorrect. Romantic contact, inappropriate self-disclosure, and personal connections are all warning signs of professional boundary violations.

6.5 Question 3

(Multiple Choice, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)



Question 3

That is incorrect. Romantic contact, inappropriate self-disclosure, and personal connections are all warning signs of professional boundary violations.

- Encourage the behavior
- Address the behavior
- Ignore the behavior
- Blame it on the patient

Correct (Slide Layer)



Feedback when correct:

That's correct! As a healthcare worker, you have a responsibility to address inappropriate behavior whenever possible.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

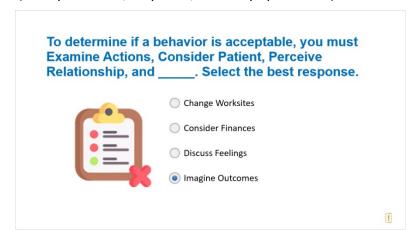


Feedback when incorrect:

That is incorrect. As a healthcare worker, you have a responsibility to address inappropriate behavior whenever possible.

6.6 Question 4

(Multiple Choice, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)



Question 4

To determine if a behavior is acceptable, you must Examine Actions, Consider Patient, Perceive Relationship, and . Select the best response.

- Change Worksites
- Consider Finances
- Discuss Feelings
- Imagine Outcomes

Correct (Slide Layer)



Feedback when correct:

That's correct! To determine if a behavior is acceptable, you must Examine Actions, Consider Patient, Perceive Relationship, and Imagine Outcomes.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)



Feedback when incorrect:

That is incorrect. To determine if a behavior is acceptable, you must Examine Actions, Consider Patient, Perceive Relationship, and Imagine Outcomes.

6.7 Question 5

(Multiple Response, 10 points, 1 attempt permitted)



Question 5

That is incorrect. To determine if a behavior is acceptable, you must Examine Actions, Consider Patient, Perceive Relationship, and Imagine Outcomes.

- Call Title IX Office
- Discuss it with your peers
- Submit online reporting form
- Contact your supervisor

Correct (Slide Layer)



Feedback when correct:

That's correct! You should call your Title IX Office, submit an online reporting form, or notify your supervisor to report misconduct.

Incorrect (Slide Layer)

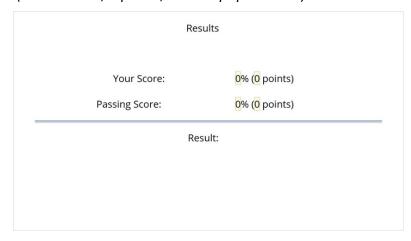


Feedback when incorrect:

That is incorrect. You should call your Title IX Office, submit an online reporting form, or notify your supervisor to report misconduct.

6.8 Results Slide

(Results Slide, 0 points, 1 attempt permitted)



Summary

Thank you for taking the Campus Health Professional Boundary training. If you have time, please evaluate the course. Select "Finish" when you are done.

Success (Slide Layer)



Success

Congratulations, you passed. Thank you for taking the Campus Health Professional Boundary training. If you have time, please evaluate the course. Select "Finish" when you are done.

Failure (Slide Layer)



Failure

Unfortunately, you did not pass. Select "Retry Test" to try again.