

10 Things Correctional Nurses Need To Do To End Up In Court

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2013 Spring Conference on

Correctional Health Care

APRIL 20-23, 2013
DENVER, COLORADO

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Faculty Disclosure

We do not have any relevant
financial relationships with
any commercial interests

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Educational Objectives

- List the most common ways that correctional nurses can avoid litigation
- Outline the steps to take when a treatment decision is unclear
- Describe how to train nursing professionals to deliver care in this very litigious setting



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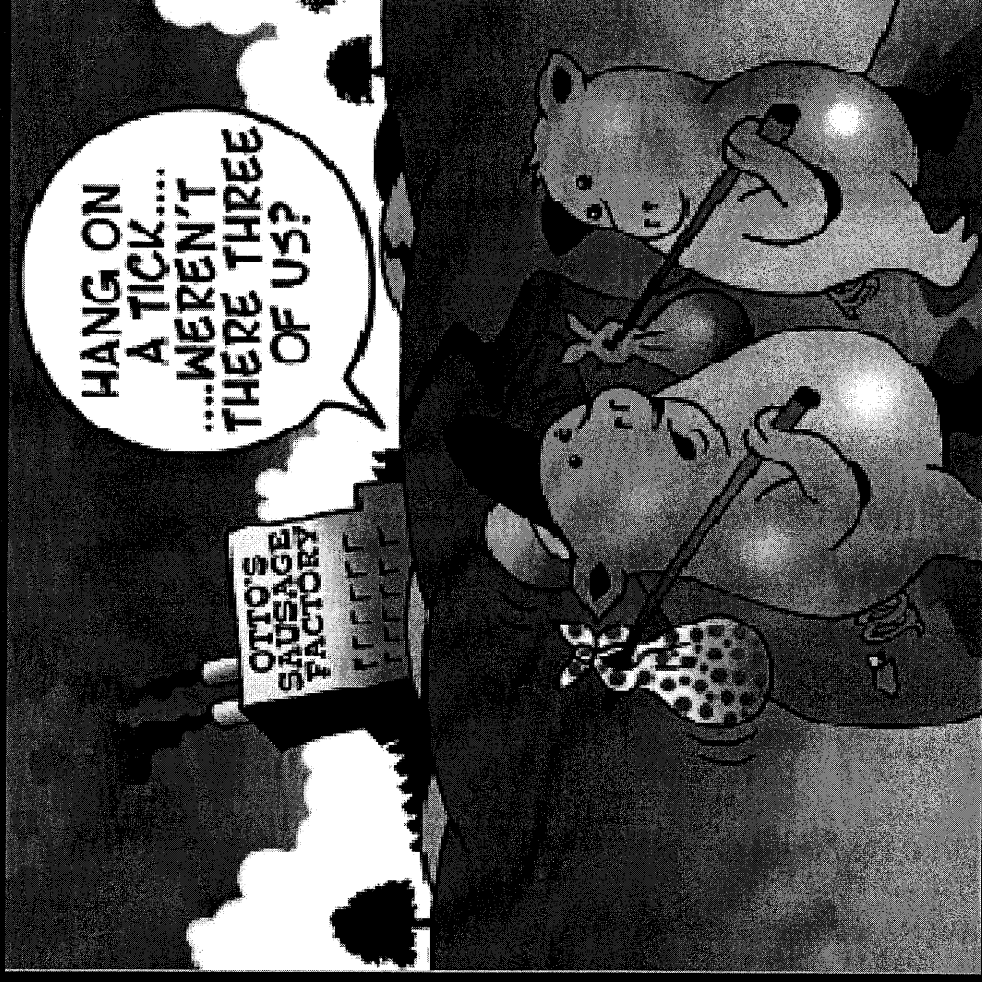
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Lawsuit:

A machine which
you go into as a
pig and come out
as a sausage.

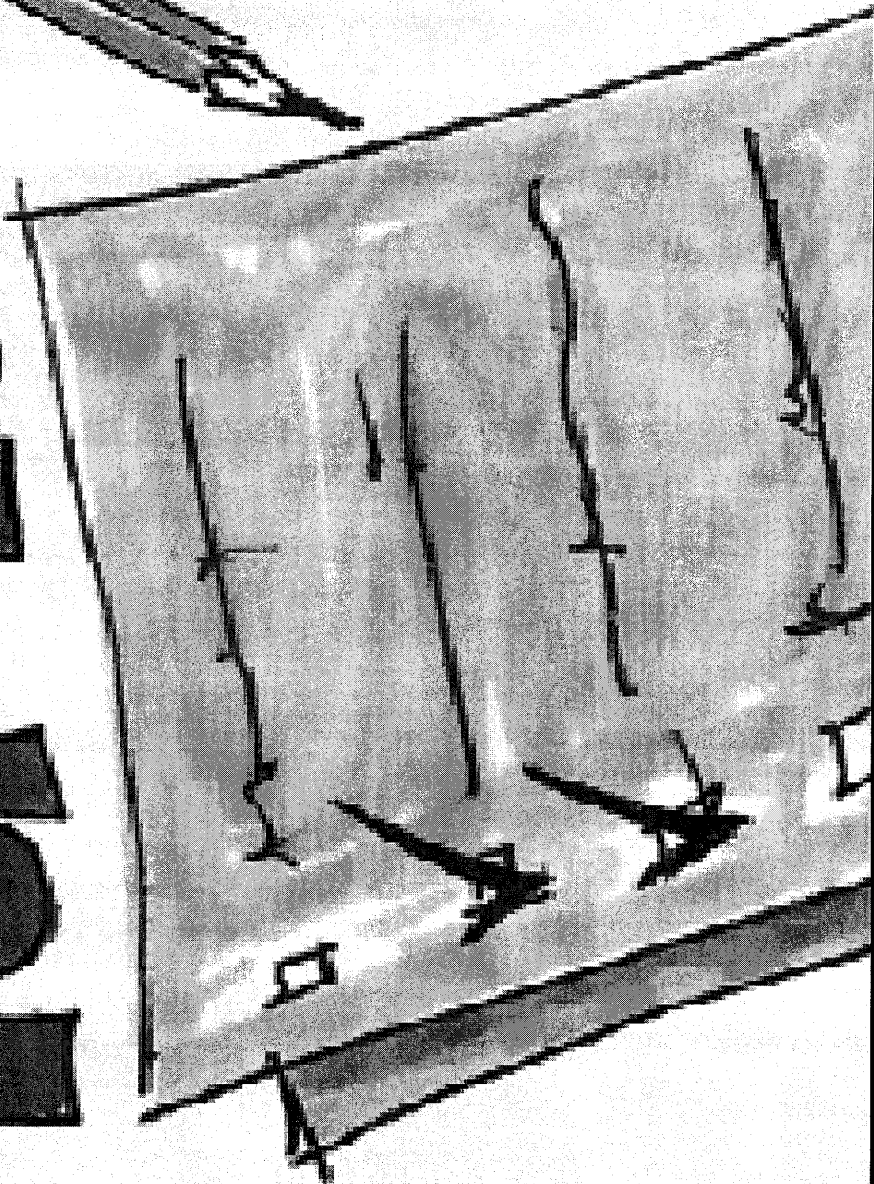
- Ambrose Bierce
American Editorialist (1842 – 1912)



Reference

- NCCHC Standards for Health Services in Jails/
Prisons
- California Board of Registered Nursing
 - Title 16, California Code of Regulations
 - Article 7, Section 1470
 - Standardized Procedures for Registered Nurses
- Essentials of Correctional Nursing
 - Lorry Schoenly & Catherine M. Knox, Editors

FOR 10



Practicing Outside your Scope

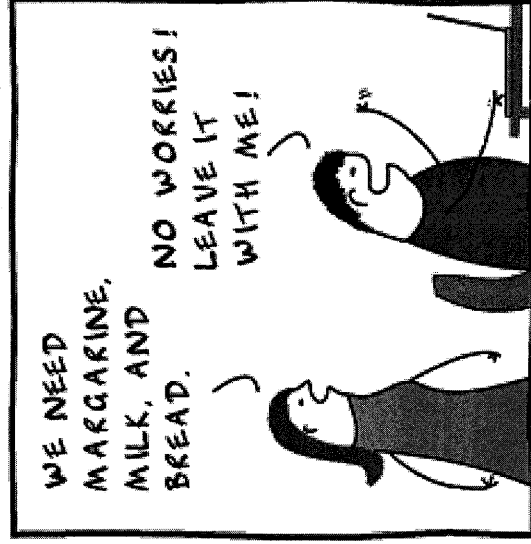


Don't Use Your Assessment Skills When Evaluating A Patient



Don't Listen To Your Patient's Description Of Their Symptoms

LISTENING SKILLS



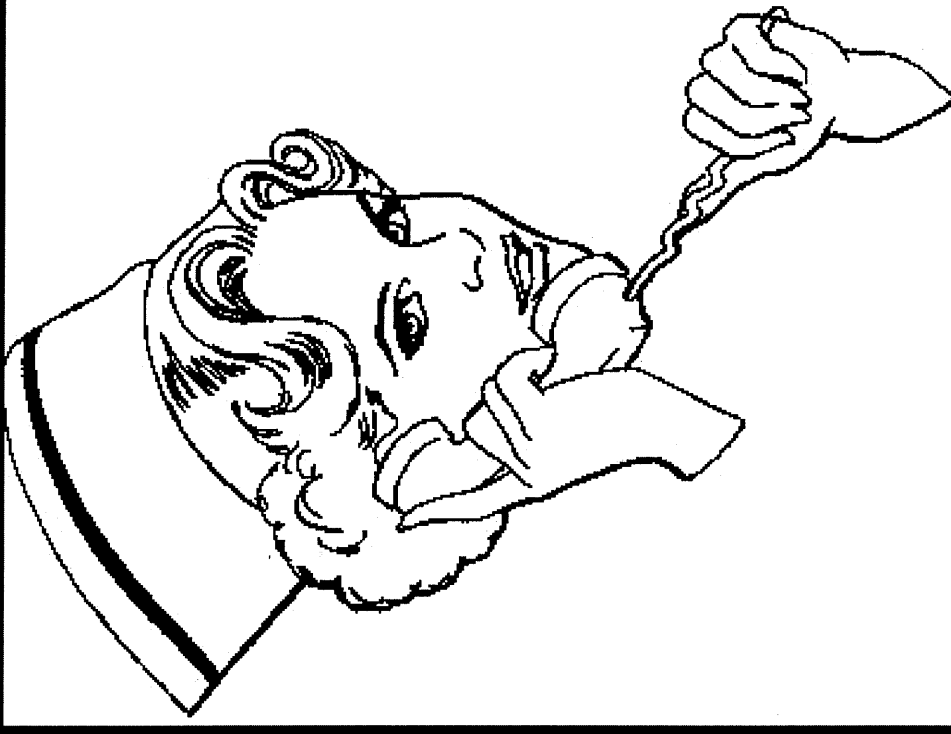
PETER F. KOY

Don't Take The Time Necessary To
Thoroughly Document Your Encounter

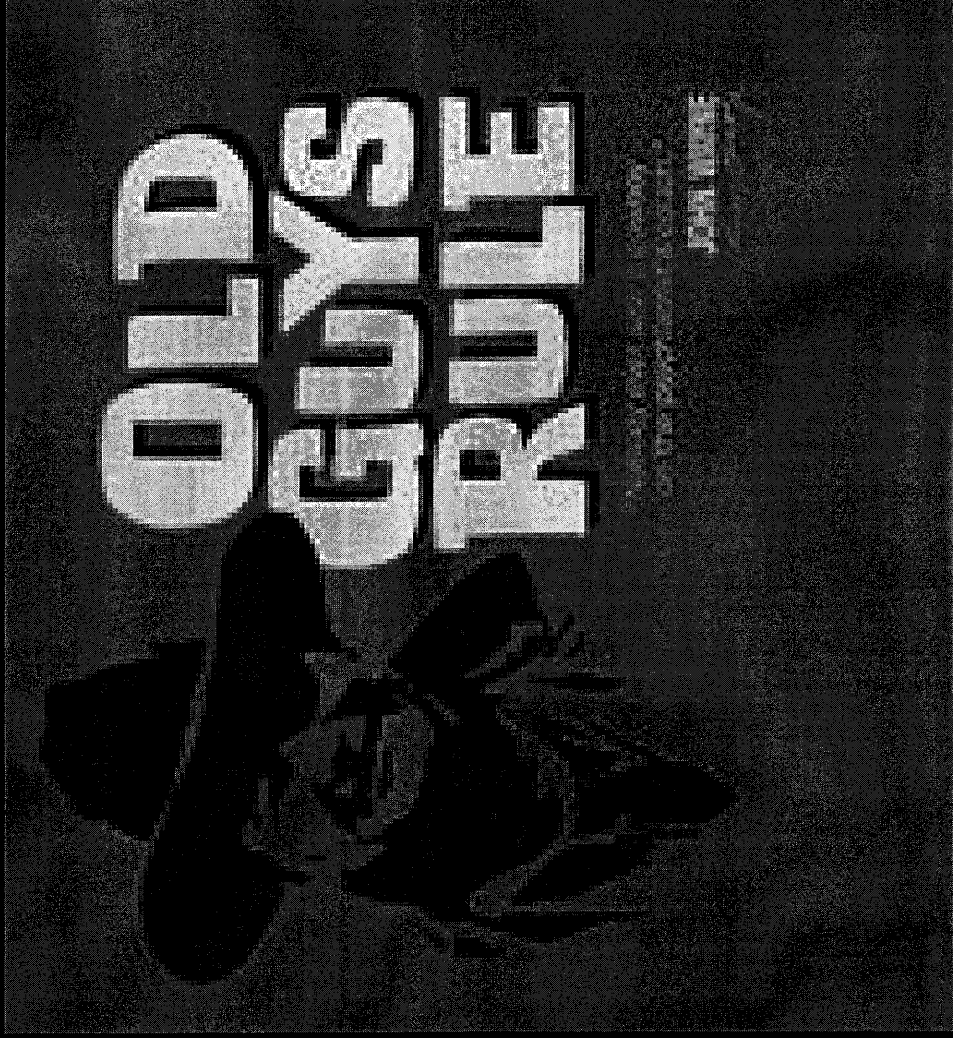


Don't Call the Doctor When You're Not Sure About Something

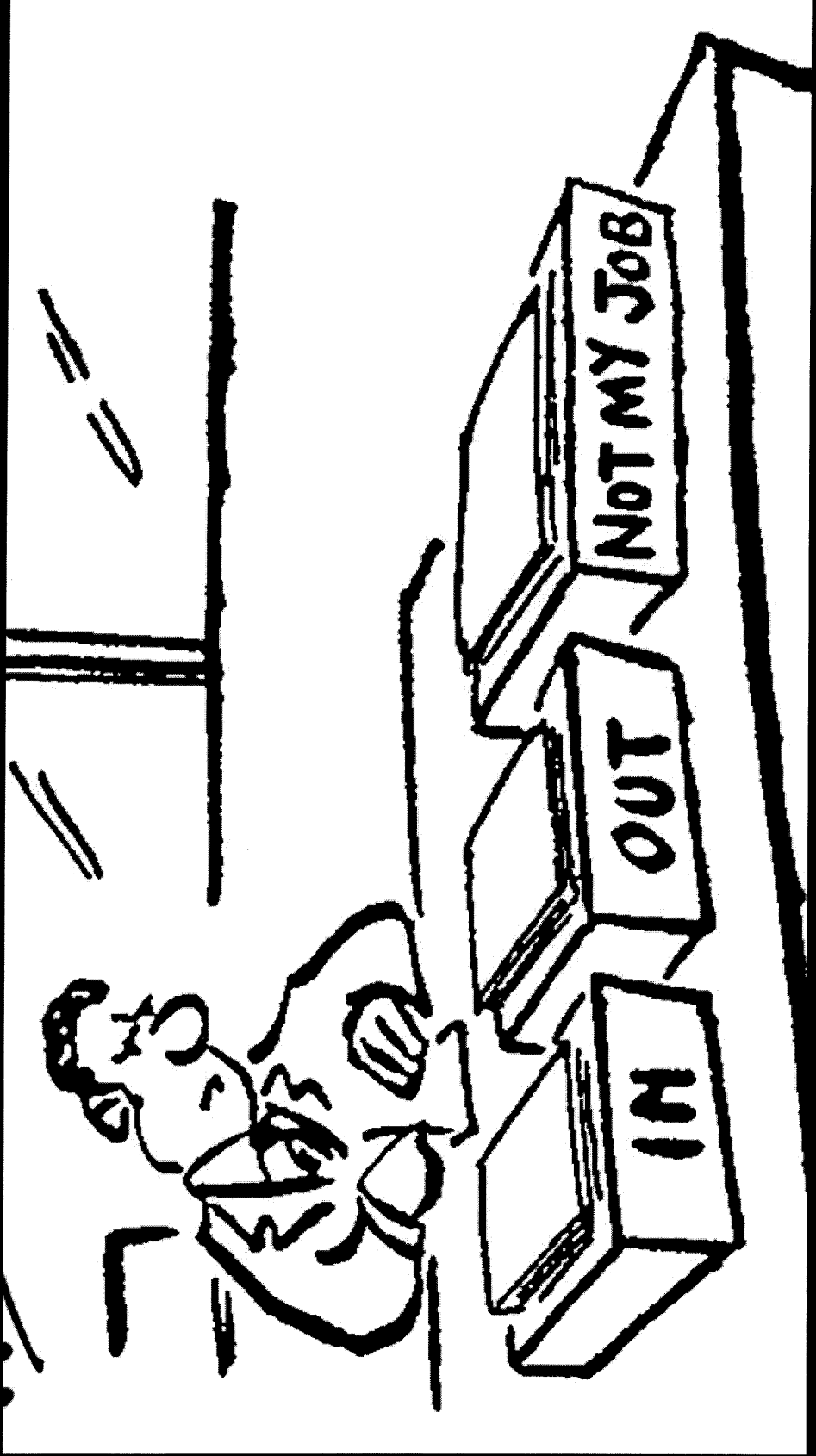
- Don't question unusual orders
- You think you know more than the doctor anyway
- The doctor is not happy when you wake him up
- Listen to your gut – it might be more than indigestion
- Be sure to have all the information that the doctor will need before you call



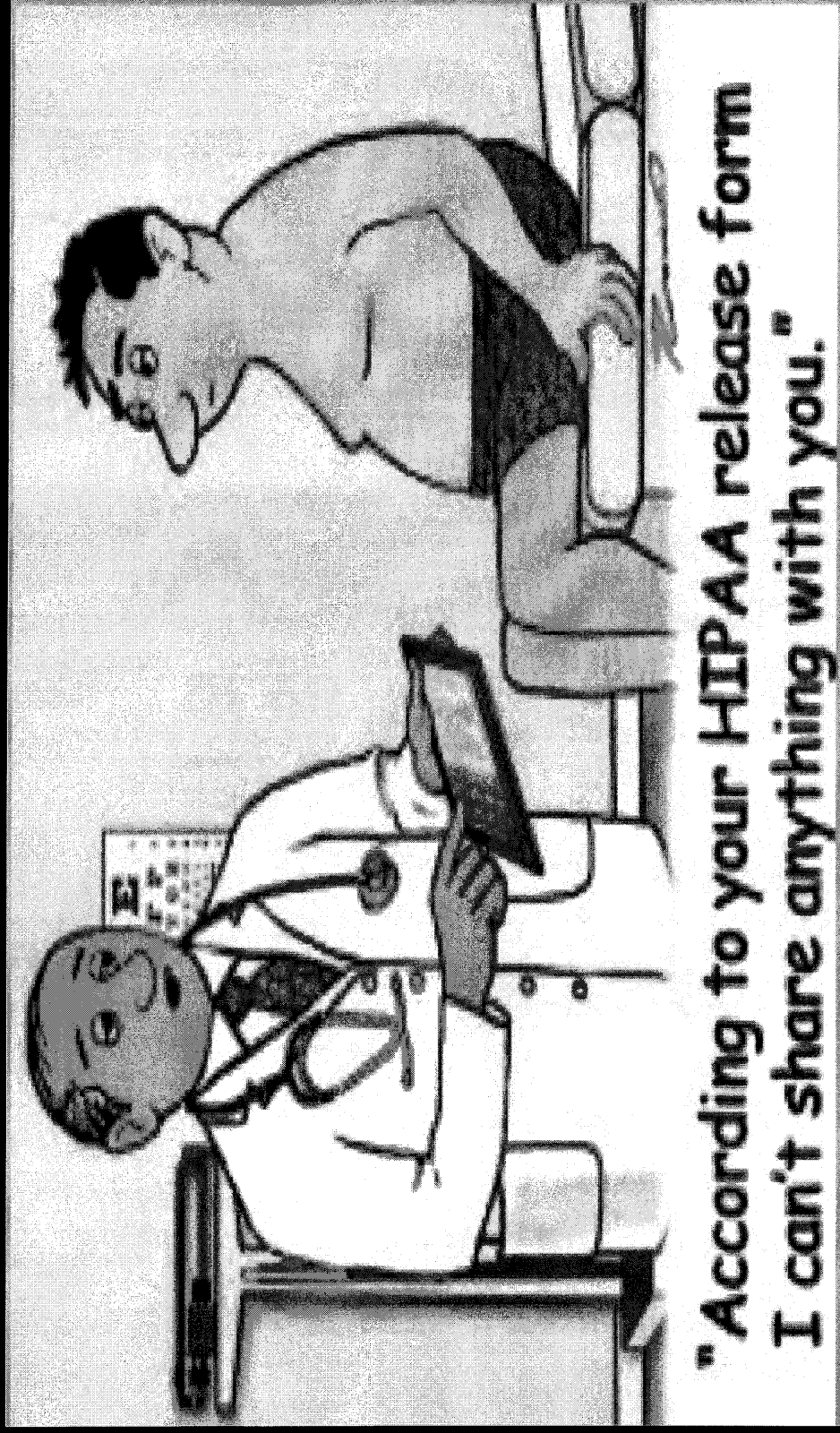
Don't Follow Current Protocol



Don't Follow Up On Something
Because "It's Not Your Job"



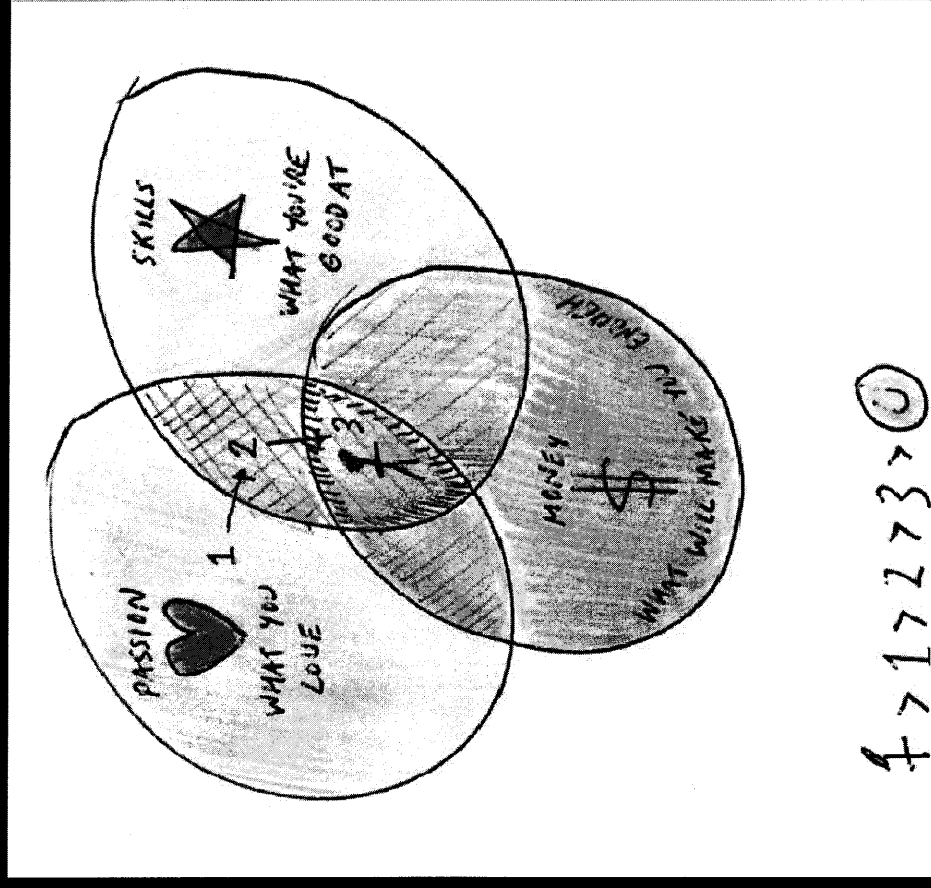
Don't Share Critical Healthcare Information With Others



Don't Look For Other Employment When You Are Not Happy With Your Job

"Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. The only way to do great work is to love what you do!"

- Steve Jobs

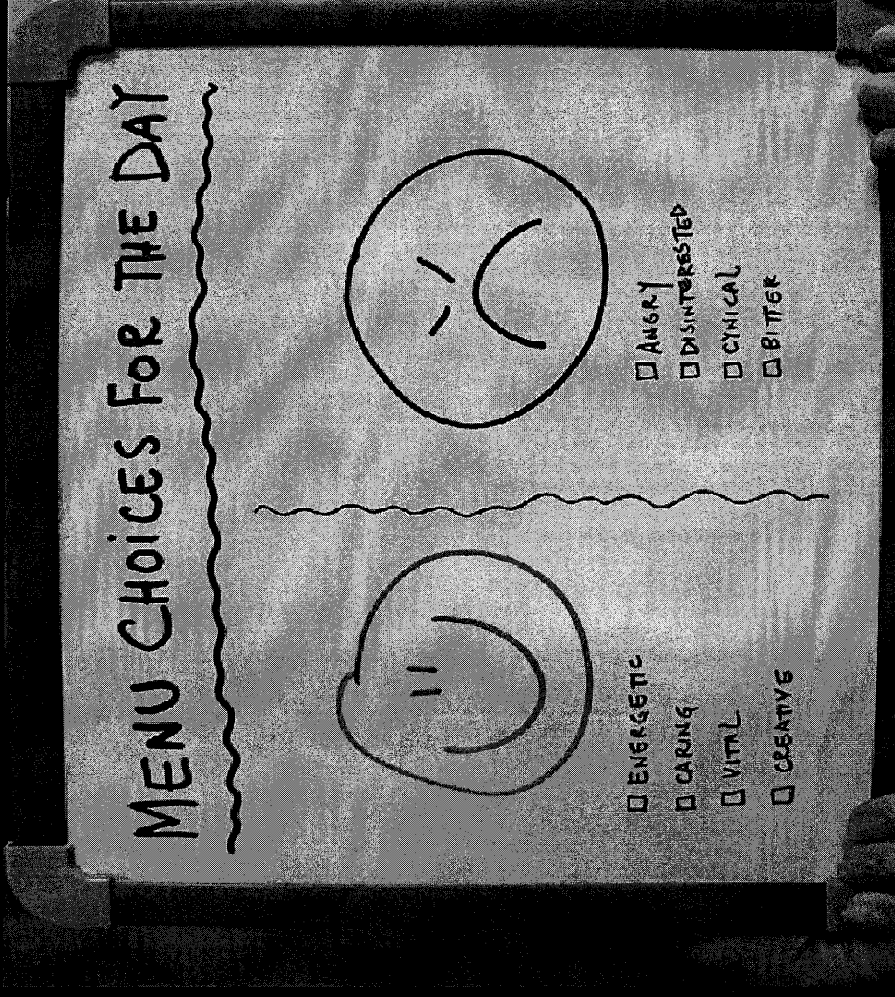


Treat Your Patient As An Inmate

Our attitude
towards others
determines their
attitude towards
us.

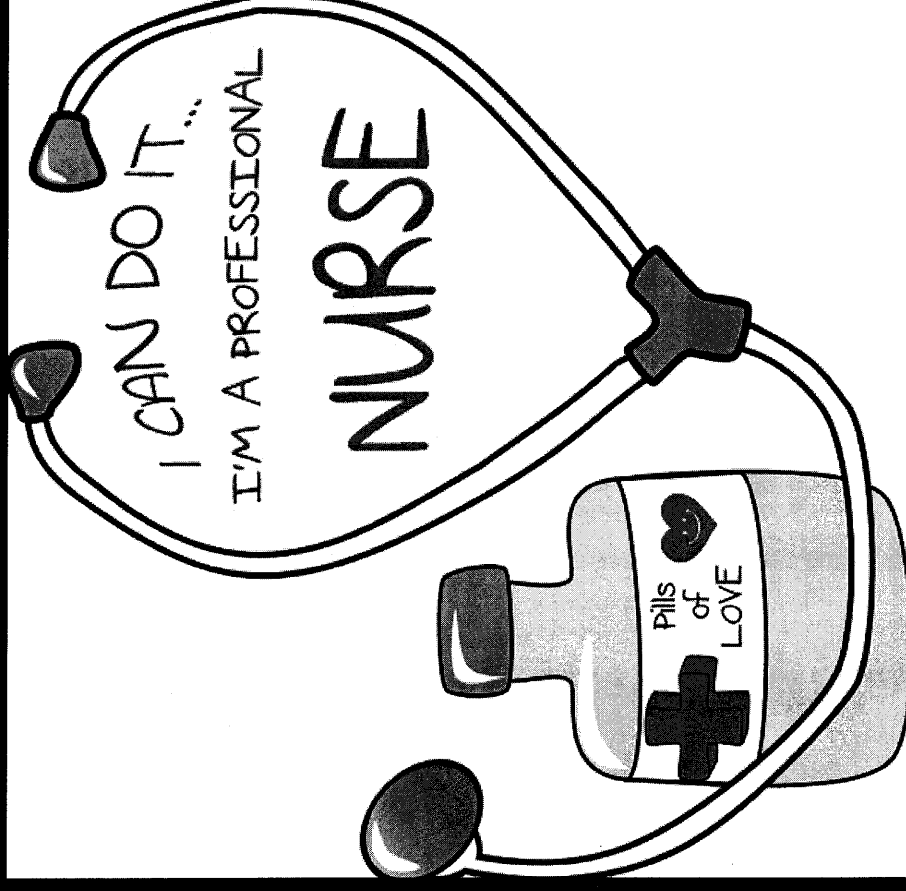
Earl Nightingale

American Motivational Speaker (1921 – 1989)



Closing Thoughts

- Be Professional and remember you are treating a patient
- Lose the security jargon
- Follow your license perimeters
- Protocols should be Firm, Fair and Consistent
- Mentors and Networking are critical



Thoughts? Questions? Discussion