

- **Scenario #1:** A CF Mentor does not reply to the CFs emails and tells that CF that she has no time to do an in-person site visit.

Discussion Questions:

Is this an ethical dilemma?

What would you do?

What areas of the ASHA Code of Ethics would come into play in your decision-making?

Is this something that you would report to the ASHA Board of Ethics?

Discussion:

Is this an ethical dilemma? Yes.

What would you do? The CF should have an honest conversation with the supervisor. If that is not possible or does not go well, the CF could take it to the person above the CF Supervisor. If this supervisor is not complying with ASHA standards for supervision or state laws and regulations regarding supervision, the CF would have every right to request another supervisor.

What areas of the ASHA Code of Ethics would come into play in your decision-making?

Principle II, B: "... individuals who are in the certification application process may engage in the provision of clinical services consistent with the current local and state laws and regulations and with ASHA certification requirements." The CF Supervisor is required by ASHA "certification standards" and state licensing laws to observe the CF in person.

Is this something that you would report to the ASHA Board of Ethics? If the Supervisor does not comply, it would be a reportable infraction.

- **Scenario #2:** A school site administrator insists that you supervise an SLPA that you have not yet met. When you do meet the SLPA, you find out that the "SLPA" is NOT an SLPA at all, but an instructional assistant that usually works in the Head Start program on your school site.

Discussion:

Is this an ethical dilemma? Yes.

What would you do? Provide the School Administrator information from ASHA and the state licensing board on the education and scope of practice for an SLPA.

Consult with the SpEd Dir, if needed.

Consult with an SLP Supervisor.

What areas of the ASHA Code of Ethics would come into play in your decision-making?

Principle 1, Rule A. Individuals shall provide all clinical services and scientific activities competently.

Rule D. Individuals shall not misrepresent the credentials of aides, assistants, technicians, support personnel, students, research interns, Clinical Fellows, or any others under their supervision, and they shall inform those they serve professionally of the name, role, and professional credentials of persons providing services.

Rule E. Individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence may delegate tasks related to the provision of clinical services to aides, assistants, technicians, support personnel, or any other persons only if those persons are adequately prepared and are appropriately supervised. The responsibility for the welfare of those being served remains with the certified individual.

Rule F. Individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence shall not delegate tasks that require the unique skills, knowledge, judgment, or credentials that are within the scope of their profession to aides, assistants, technicians, support personnel, or any nonprofessionals over whom they have supervisory responsibility.

Rule Q. Individuals shall maintain timely records and accurately record and bill for services provided and products dispensed and shall not misrepresent services provided, products dispensed, or research and scholarly activities conducted.

Principle III, Rule A Individuals shall not misrepresent their credentials, competence, education, training, experience, and scholarly contributions.

Rule E. Individuals' statements to the public shall provide accurate and complete information about the nature and management of communication disorders, about the professions, about professional services...

Principle 4, Rule C. Individuals' statements to colleagues about professional services, research results, and products shall adhere to prevailing professional standards and shall contain no misrepresentations.

Rule D. Individuals shall not engage in any form of conduct that adversely reflects on the professions or on the individual's fitness to serve persons professionally.

Rule I. Individuals shall not knowingly allow anyone under their supervision to engage in any practice that violates the Code of Ethics.

Rule R. Individuals shall comply with local, state, and federal laws and regulations applicable to professional practice, research ethics, and the responsible conduct of research.

Is this something that you would report to the ASHA Board of Ethics? This is NOT reportable to the ASHA Board of Ethics as it did not involve another SLP. If an ASHA certified SLP had instructed you to use an instructional assistant and call her an SLPA, that would be reportable to the ASHA Board of Ethics.

- **Scenario #3:** A parent and advocate at an IEP meeting give you a list of tests that you should give to their student.

Discussion:

Is this an ethical dilemma? Yes.

What would you do?

Ask the parent and advocate why they are requesting these tests.

Have a discussion on the adequacy or inadequacy of these tests for this particular student.

Have a discussion on the time the student will miss class and therapy to administer these tests.

What areas of the ASHA Code of Ethics would come into play in your decision-making?

Principle IV: Individuals shall uphold the dignity and autonomy of the professions, maintain collaborative and harmonious interprofessional and intraprofessional relationships, and accept the professions' self-imposed standards.

A. Individuals shall work collaboratively, when appropriate, with members of one's own profession and/or members of other professions to deliver the highest quality of care.

B. Individuals shall exercise independent professional judgment in recommending and providing professional services when an administrative mandate, referral source, or prescription prevents keeping the welfare of persons served paramount.

C. Individuals' statements to colleagues about professional services, research results, and products shall adhere to prevailing professional standards and shall contain no misrepresentations.

R. Individuals shall comply with local, state, and federal laws and regulations applicable to professional practice, research ethics, and the responsible conduct of research.

Principle I: Individuals shall honor their responsibility to hold paramount the welfare of persons they serve professionally or who are participants in research and scholarly activities, and they shall treat animals involved in research in a humane manner.

Rule E. Individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence may delegate tasks related to the provision of clinical services to aides, assistants, technicians, support personnel, or any other persons only if those persons are adequately prepared and are appropriately supervised. The responsibility for the welfare of those being served remains with the certified individual.

Rule F. Individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence shall not delegate tasks that require the unique skills, knowledge, judgment, or credentials that are within the scope of their profession to aides, assistants, technicians, support personnel, or any nonprofessionals over whom they have supervisory responsibility.

M. Individuals who hold the Certificate of Clinical Competence shall use independent and evidence-based clinical judgment, keeping paramount the best interests of those being served.

Is this something that you would report to the ASHA Board of Ethics?

No, because it does not involve another ASHA member.

It is still an ethical dilemma and one that you would want to think through very carefully as you proceed so that you are in compliance with the ASHA Code of Ethics.