

Scenario 1

A staff nurse posted the following comment on her social media page: “Can this shift be any longer? It started out with a waiting room full of nagging people who don’t seem to know what ‘emergency’ means. Then, I had to deal with the drama of trying to transfer a 400 lbs. (no joke) intubated chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patient down the hall to the intensive care unit. Those intensive care unit nurses are such divas, and I wasn’t in the mood for their whining. Someone help!”

○ **Analyze the privacy and security issues related to this social media posting.**

The use of social media is prone to security and privacy issues as a large part of society accesses information posted on the platforms (Bhuyan et al., 2017). Healthcare providers need to cease posting healthcare matters on social media platforms which may tarnish the institution's name and pose a lousy image to society (Househ et al., 2018). Social media is used as a platform to pass large amounts of information to the public. Information published on the site is available for access by a large portion of society. Thus, the information provided should be dignified and relevant to the public (Mgudlwa & Iyamu, 2018). Based on the case scenario provided above, the information breached privacy and security conduct. The information provided is not expected from a healthcare provider as they are considered responsible persons in society. First, the health provider states the patient's location in the facility, which is against the breach of the patient's privacy and may contribute to security issues on the patient's safety. It is not advisable to state patients’ weight to the public without informed consent as it is against privacy and security matters. The patient can sue the healthcare provider by revealing his location and weight to the members of the public. Patients’ diagnoses should be private and confidential and should not be disclosed to the public while the healthcare provider reveals that the patient is suffering from COPD through social media. The post tarnishes the name of the institution, which can easily destroy organizational reputation, and patients can shy away from seeking healthcare services from the institution; no patient would like to seek medical assistance in an institution with nagging staff who could compromise his health status. Healthcare institutions should provide definitive policies that strengthen privacy and security issues on social media to help protect patients' privacy and safeguard institutional reputation (Househ et al., 2018).

Scenario 2

A nurse practitioner is preparing a presentation poster for an infectious disease conference. She includes pictures of varying stages of a client’s lesions in the poster.

○ **Analyze the privacy and security issues related to the inclusion of patient information on the poster.**

The nurse educator observes the security and privacy policies in the case scenario provided above. Since the nurse educator only takes pictures of the patient's lesions but doesn’t reveal the identity of the patient thus it is hard for the public to understand the person affected by the lesions (Mgudlwa & Iyamu, 2018). It is highly important to keep patients’ identities secret from the public members and avoid disclosing personal illnesses as it may attract the public's attention. The nurse educator does not take photography inclusive of the patient phase but only illustrates the lesions for educational purposes, thus observing privacy and security policy.