

Graded-Risk Model: Boundary Crossings

Type of Boundary Crossing	Risk of harm to patient and professional-patient (P-P) relationship	Coercive and exploitative elements	Potential of benefit to patient and P-P relationship	Professional intentions and motives	Professional ideals	Recommendations
I	High	Present	None-Low	Professional self-interests over patient-interests	Absent	Discouraged and prohibited
II	High	Ambiguous	Low	Professional self-interests blur patient-interests	Absent or minimum	Highly discouraged rarely justified
III	Low-Middle	Absent	Middle-High	Patient interests over professional self-interests	Present. Discernment and judgment important.	Encouraged as benefit increases. Justified. At times, above call of duty.
IV	None-Low	Absent	Middle-High	Patient-interests over professional self-interests	Present Ideal model of care	Strongly encouraged. Justified. Obligated as benefit increases.

Martinez, R. (2000). A model for boundary dilemmas: Ethical decision-making in the patient-professional relationship. *Ethical Human Sciences and Services*, 2, 43-61.