

# Are you or a colleague crossing professional boundaries with a patient?



**Giving personal contact information to a patient**



**Communicating electronically with the patient through social media, for personal reasons**



**Giving gifts to a patient**



**Paying special attention to a patient (for example, spending time with the patient outside their shift, or on a break)**



**Discussing personal issues with a patient**



**Changing assignments to care for a specific patient**



**Dressing differently for a particular patient**



**Frequently thinking about a particular patient**



**Feeling other members of the team do not understand a specific patient**



**Keeping secrets with the patient**

**Boundary violations, like the ones listed on this fact sheet, can lead to sexual abuse.** By recognizing warning signs in yourself and colleagues, you can stop the behaviour and prevent it from escalating to sexual abuse. For more information on preventing sexual abuse, visit [www.cno.org](http://www.cno.org).



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