

<b>Differences Between Professional and Non-Professional Relationships</b>
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<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Professional Relationship with client/patient</b>	<b>Non-Professional Relationship (casual, friendship, romantic)</b>
Remuneration	Paid or assigned to provide care to a client/patient	No payment for being in the relationship
Length of relationship	Time-limited for the length of the client/patient's need for health care	May last a lifetime
Location of the relationship	Place is defined and limited to where the healthcare is provided	Place unlimited, often undefined
Purpose of relationship	Goal-directed to provide care and meet needs	Pleasure, interest directed
Structure of the relationship	For health care employee/volunteer to provide care to client/patient	Spontaneous, unstructured
Power balance	Unequal power-professional has more power due to authority, training, influence, knowledge and access to privileged information about the client/patient	Relatively equal
Responsibility for the relationship	Professional is responsible for establishing and maintaining a professional relationship, not the client/patient	Equal responsibility to establish and maintain
Preparations for the relationship	Professional requires formal knowledge, preparation, orientation and training	Does not require formal knowledge, preparation, orientation and training.
Time spent in relationship	Professional is employed under formal contractual agreement that outlines hours of work for contact with professional/volunteer and client/patient	Personal choice on how much time is spent on relationship