



Beyond Bedside Care: The Vital Role and Rewards of Nursing

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ABSTRACT

Nursing is a vital profession that plays a crucial role in healthcare. Nurses are responsible for providing care and support to patients, as well as assisting doctors and other healthcare professionals in the diagnosis and treatment of illnesses. The nursing profession is also known for its rewarding nature, as nurses are able to make a positive impact on the lives of patients and their families. With a strong focus on patient care, critical thinking, and communication skills, nursing offers a challenging and fulfilling career path. As the demand for healthcare services continues to grow, nursing is expected to remain a vital and rewarding profession for years to come.

Keywords: Nursing; Vital profession; Healthcare; Patient care; Rewarding career

Introduction

Nursing is a profession that is indispensable in the healthcare system. Nurses play a critical role in ensuring the well-being of patients by providing quality care and ensuring their comfort. Nurses work in various settings, including hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, schools, and community health centers. The nursing profession has evolved over the years, and today, it is one of the most respected and sought-after careers in the healthcare industry.

Nursing is a rewarding profession that requires compassion, dedication, and a desire to help others. Nurses are the first point of contact for patients, and they are responsible for monitoring their condition, administering medications, providing emotional support, and educating them about their health [1]. Nurses also work closely with doctors, therapists, and other healthcare professionals to develop and implement treatment plans.

Nursing is not just about taking care of the physical needs of patients; it is also about providing emotional support to patients and their families. Nurses often work with patients who are going through difficult times, such as those who have been diagnosed with a chronic illness or who are undergoing surgery. In such situations, nurses play a critical role in providing comfort and reassurance to patients and their families.

The nursing profession requires a significant

amount of education and training. Nurses must complete a nursing program, which can be a diploma, associate degree, or bachelor's degree program. They must also pass a licensing exam to practice as a registered nurse (RN). Additionally, nurses must continue their education throughout their careers to stay up-to-date with the latest advancements in healthcare.

One of the critical skills that nurses must possess is critical thinking. They must be able to assess a patient's condition and develop a plan of care that meets their individual needs [2]. Nurses must also be able to make quick decisions in emergency situations and collaborate effectively with other healthcare professionals.

The nursing profession is diverse, and there are many different career paths that nurses can pursue. Some nurses work in specialized areas such as pediatrics, geriatrics, oncology, or critical care. Others work in management roles, where they oversee other nurses and healthcare staff [3]. There are also opportunities for nurses to work in research, education, or public health.

Types of Nurses

There are several types of nursing, each with its own unique role and responsibilities. In this article, we will provide a brief overview of the various types of nursing.

■ Registered Nurse (RN)

Registered Nurses are the most common type of nurse. RNs provide direct patient care, including

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administering medications, monitoring vital signs, and performing diagnostic tests. RNs work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes. They may also specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as pediatrics, oncology, or critical care.

A Registered Nurse (RN) is a healthcare professional who has completed a nursing program and passed a licensing exam to become licensed to practice nursing in their state or country. Registered nurses provide direct patient care, working closely with physicians and other healthcare professionals to manage patient care and treatment plans. They assess patient conditions, administer medications and treatments, and monitor patients' vital signs. Registered nurses also provide emotional support to patients and their families and educate them about their health conditions and treatments.

Registered nurses work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, schools, and community health centers. They may specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as pediatrics, oncology, or critical care [4]. Registered nurses may also choose to pursue advanced degrees and certifications to become nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, or clinical nurse specialists.

To become a registered nurse, individuals must complete a nursing program, which can be a diploma, associate degree, or bachelor's degree program. After completing their education, they must pass a licensing exam to become a registered nurse. Registered nurses must also continue their education throughout their careers to stay up-to-date with the latest advancements in healthcare and maintain their licensure.

■ Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

Licensed Practical Nurses, also known as Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs), work under the supervision of RNs and physicians. They provide basic patient care, such as taking vital signs, administering medications, and changing bandages. LPNs work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities.

A Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) is a healthcare professional who works under the supervision of registered nurses and physicians to provide basic patient care. LPNs are responsible for taking pat-

-ients' vital signs, administering medications, changing bandages, and assisting patients with daily living activities such as bathing and dressing. They may also provide emotional support to patients and their families and help educate them about their health conditions and treatments.

Licensed practical nurses work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and private homes. They may work as part of a healthcare team or independently under the direction of a physician or registered nurse.

To become a licensed practical nurse, individuals must complete a practical nursing program, which typically takes about one year to complete. After completing their education, they must pass a licensing exam to become licensed to practice nursing in their state or country.

LPNs may choose to specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as geriatrics, pediatrics, or hospice care. They may also choose to pursue additional education and training to become registered nurses or advance their careers as LPNs.

■ Nurse Practitioner (NP)

Nurse Practitioners are Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) who have additional education and training. NPs can diagnose and treat common illnesses, prescribe medications, and order diagnostic tests. They may also specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as family medicine, pediatrics, or mental health.

Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are advanced practice registered nurses who have additional education and training beyond that of a registered nurse [5]. They are licensed to diagnose and treat common medical conditions, prescribe medications, and order diagnostic tests. Nurse practitioners work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, private practices, and nursing homes.

Nurse practitioners provide comprehensive patient care, often functioning as primary care providers for patients of all ages. They work closely with physicians and other healthcare professionals to manage patient care and treatment plans. They may specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as family medicine, pediatrics, or mental health.

To become a nurse practitioner, individuals must first become a registered nurse and then complete a nurse practitioner program, which can be a master's or doctoral degree program. Nurse practitioner programs typically include coursework in advanced pharmacology, physiology, and patient assessment, as well as clinical rotations in various healthcare settings.

Nurse practitioners may also choose to pursue additional certifications in a particular area of healthcare, such as oncology, geriatrics, or acute care. They must maintain their licensure and certifications by completing continuing education courses and staying up-to-date with the latest advancements in healthcare.

■ Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

Certified Nursing Assistants provide basic patient care, such as bathing, feeding, and helping patients with mobility. They work under the supervision of RNs and LPNs and may work in hospitals, nursing homes, or home healthcare settings.

Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) are healthcare professionals who work under the supervision of registered nurses and other healthcare professionals to provide basic patient care. They are responsible for assisting patients with daily living activities, such as bathing, dressing, and eating. CNAs may also take patients' vital signs, help with transferring and repositioning patients, and assist with medical procedures.

Certified nursing assistants work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and home healthcare agencies. They may work with patients of all ages and provide care for individuals with chronic conditions or disabilities.

To become a certified nursing assistant, individuals must complete a state-approved training program, which typically includes classroom instruction and hands-on clinical training. After completing their training, they must pass a competency exam to become certified to practice as a nursing assistant.

Certified nursing assistants may choose to specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as hospice care or dementia care. They may also choose to pursue additional education and training to become licensed practical nurses or registered nurses.

■ Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)

Clinical Nurse Specialists are advanced practice registered nurses who specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as oncology, pediatrics, or critical care. They provide direct patient care,

educate other nurses, and develop policies and procedures for their specialty area.

A Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) is an advanced practice registered nurse who specializes in a particular area of healthcare, such as pediatrics, geriatrics, or oncology. CNSs provide expert patient care, clinical leadership, and consultation to healthcare teams.

Clinical nurse specialists work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and research institutions. They collaborate with physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to develop and implement patient care plans, improve patient outcomes, and promote evidence-based practice.

CNSs may also be involved in research and education, developing and implementing evidence-based protocols and educating healthcare providers and patients about best practices in patient care.

To become a clinical nurse specialist, individuals must first become a registered nurse and then complete a master's or doctoral degree program in nursing with a focus on clinical specialization. CNS programs typically include advanced coursework in pharmacology, pathophysiology, and patient assessment, as well as clinical rotations in various healthcare settings.

Clinical nurse specialists may choose to specialize in a particular area of healthcare, such as critical care, mental health, or women's health. They must maintain their licensure and certifications by completing continuing education courses and staying up-to-date with the latest advancements in healthcare.

■ Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists are advanced practice registered nurses who specialize in administering anesthesia during surgical procedures. They work closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, and other healthcare professionals to ensure that patients receive safe and effective anesthesia.

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) are advanced practice registered nurses who specialize in administering anesthesia to patients in a variety of healthcare settings. They are responsible for evaluating patients, developing anesthesia care plans, administering anesthesia, and monitoring patients throughout medical procedures.

CRNAs work in a variety of healthcare settings, including hospitals, surgical centers, and dental offices. They often work independently, but may also collaborate with other healthcare professionals to ensure safe and effective anesthesia administration.

To become a CRNA, individuals must first become a registered nurse and then complete a nurse anesthesia program, which typically takes 2-3 years to complete. Nurse anesthesia programs include coursework in anatomy, pharmacology, physiology, and anesthesia principles, as well as extensive clinical rotations.

After completing their education, CRNAs must pass a national certification exam to become licensed to practice as a nurse anesthetist. They must maintain their licensure and certifications by completing continuing education courses and staying up-to-date with the latest advancements in anesthesia care.

CRNAs are highly skilled healthcare professionals who play a critical role in ensuring patient safety and comfort during medical procedures. They work closely with other healthcare professionals to provide safe and effective anesthesia care, and are often involved in managing patients' pain both during and after medical procedures.

Conclusion

In conclusion, nursing is a diverse and rewarding profession that offers many opportunities for career growth and advancement. There are several types of nursing, each with its own unique role and responsibilities. Whether you are interested in providing direct patient care or specializing in a particular area of healthcare, there is a nursing career path that can meet your goals and interests.

Nursing is a vital and rewarding profession that is essential to the healthcare industry. Nurses play a critical role in ensuring the well-being of patients, providing emotional support, and collaborating with other healthcare professionals to develop and implement treatment plans. Nursing requires a significant amount of education and training, but it is a career that offers a great deal of fulfillment and satisfaction. If you are considering a career in healthcare, nursing may be the perfect profession for you.

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