

## Component 2: The Culture of Health Care

### Unit 2: Health Professionals – the people in health care Lecture 2: Nurses

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## Unit 2, Lecture 2 Objectives

- Nurses - education, training, certification, licensure, and roles
  - RN and BSN common roles
    - hospital med-surg nurse
    - surgical and specialized hospital nursing roles
    - nursing in outpatient settings
- Advanced Practice Nursing
  - Nurse Practitioners: FNP, GNP
  - Nurse midwives
  - Nurse anesthetists
- Other nursing settings and roles
  - long term care
  - home health care
  - community health nursing
- Non clinical roles of nurses
- LPNs, MAs, Medication Aides

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## Nurses

- Education
  - Diploma
  - Associate Degree
  - Bachelors of Science
  - Bridge Programs RN to BSN
- Clinical Training
  - Part of the education process
  - Many hospitals have additional training programs at entry level

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### Nurses

- Certification
  - No required certification
  - Growing number of specialty certification programs
- Licensure
  - Requires successful completion of a accredited nursing school program
  - NCLEX-RN

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### Nursing Roles

- Direct patient care
- Continuous observation and monitoring
- Diagnostic test
- Administer Medication
- Patient Education
- Emotional Support

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### Specific Nursing Roles

- Hospital Medical-Surgical Nurse
  - Can obtain certification
  - Care for patients with medical and surgical problems
- Specialized Nursing Roles
  - Specific Disease or Specialty
    - Diabetic Nursing
    - Rehabilitation Unit
    - Neurosurgery Unit

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### Advance Practice Nursing

- Nurse Practitioner
  - Education: Usually requires a Master's in Nursing with specific clinical and diagnostic training
  - Training: Programs include training in clinical setting physical diagnosis, managing acute and chronic disease, well care, prescribing medication
  - Certification: Most states require certification in their area of specialty

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### Advance Practice Nursing

- Nurse Practitioner
  - Certification: Most states require certification in their area of specialty
    - Examples include Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP), Geriatric Nurse Practitioner (GNP)
  - Licensure
    - States vary on the roles allowed to Nurse Practitioners including prescription privileges and ability to have independent practices
  - Roles
    - Nurse Practitioners function most often as primary care providers including preventive, acute and chronic care.

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### Nurse Midwives

- Education
  - Post graduate or graduate program
  - Must have a BSN to become a certified nurse midwife.
- Training
  - Most include courses in advance practice nursing (physical diagnosis, pharmacology, pathophysiology)
  - Clinical course and pratica in ante-, intra- and postpartum care and care of the newborn

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### Nurse Midwives

- **Certification**
  - Only a few of the Nurse Midwives programs are post-baccalaureate programs
- **Licensure**
  - Licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia
- **Role**
  - Provide routine gynecology services, prenatal, delivery and postnatal care

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### Nurse Anesthetist

- **Education**
  - Must have a BSN
  - Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) programs are Master's degree
- **Training**
  - Most include courses in advance practice nursing (physical diagnosis, pharmacology, pathophysiology)
  - Clinical course in anesthesia simulation labs and practice in clinical anesthesia

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### Nurse Anesthetist

- **Certification**
  - National certification exam
  - Must have 40 hours of continuing education every two years to renew
- **Licensure**
  - Most are licensed by the state board of nursing
- **Roles**
  - Provide a significant amount of anesthesia care in the U.S.A. and usually practice with physicians but are relatively autonomous

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### Other Nursing Roles

- Long term care
  - Similar to general nursing roles but focus on patients that require constant care and assistance with activities of daily living
- Home health care
  - A significant improvement that provides infusion therapy, wound management and other care in the home
- Community Health Nursing
  - Focus more on population health
  - More of role in health promotion/disease prevention

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### Non Clinical Roles of Nursing

- Administration
- Research
- Education
  - Nursing School
  - Continuing Nursing Education
- Case Management

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### Licensed Practical Nurses

- Education
  - 12-18 months of training post high school
- Training
  - Includes training in Medical Terminology, Introduction to anatomy/physiology, Introduction to Pharmacology, and Practical Nursing Clinical Course
- Certification
  - Usually results in a certificate of attendance

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## Licensed Practical Nurse

- Licensing
  - All states and the District of Columbia require a licensing exam
  - Licensed by the state board of nursing
- Role
  - Provide more direct care
  - Under the supervision of Registered Nurse or Physician
  - State laws vary but most allow LPN's to start and administer IV therapy, many allow LPN's to administer IV medications except IV push

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## Medical Assistants

- Medical Assistant
  - Variable education: one year (Certificate) to two years (Associate Degree)
  - Most receive training in Medical Terminology, Office Administration, Coding and Reimbursement, Lab Procedures, Office Patient Care, Medications,
  - Not Licensed
  - Role includes routine administrative and clinical duties usually in an ambulatory setting

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## Medication Assistants

- Extremely variable education/training ranging from 15 to 70 contact hours
- Most states require an exam and supervised administration for some period of time
- Some states require training as a Certified Nursing Assistant as a prerequisite
- Most states license Medication Assistants
- Roles are variable, but usually include the administration oral, topical, nebulized or metered inhaled medication. Many states restrict medication assistants to Long Term Care or Assisted Living Facilities

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## Summary

- Describe education, training, certification, licensure, and roles of:
  - Nurses
  - Advance practice nurse
  - Licensed Practical Nurse
  - Medical Assistants
  - Medication Assistants
- Discussed some specific type of nurses and nursing setting
- Described non-clinical roles of nurses

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