

NURSING FOUNDATION

for Post Basic BSc Nursing



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CHAPTER

3

Changing Face of Nursing



'The roles of the nurse and nurse executive have evolved significantly in response to changes in the health care industry in the last 20 years'

—Carol S Kleinman

Learning Objectives

On completion of this chapter, the learner will be able to:

- Describe Issues in Current Nursing Practice.
- Discuss Trends in Current Nursing Practice.
- Describe Current Issues in Nursing Education.
- Discuss the Challenges in Nursing Education.
- Explain the Future of Nursing Practice.

Key Terms

Challenges Evidence-based practice Trends

Change Future direction Woman empowerment
Consumerism Nursing

Curriculum Technological advancement

Key Concept

- The nursing profession has evolved over hundreds of years and continues to grow in response to society's need.
- Hospital care has changed over the years which allowed for more skill specialization and development of the nurse's as an expert within health care.
- Educational preparation and career opportunities in nursing are numerous. Diploma, associates, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees are available to those seeking a career in nursing.
- Trends in nursing practice developed in response to changes in society. Trends affecting modern nursing practice include financial concern, technological advancement, and women's empowerment.
- Nurses must be aware of the political and socioeconomic trends that influence nursing and health care.
- Nurses operate within a complex matrix of client needs and resources.

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- Nursing opportunities have evolved to new levels of opportunity including data analysis, researchbased therapies, client and community education and policy formation at the international as well as local and national arenas.
- The issues of today's trends will affect the future of nursing.

INTRODUCTION

Nursing is not a static, unchanging profession but is continuously growing and evolving as society changes, health care delivery system changes, as lifestyle changes and nurses themselves changes. According to nurse leaders nursing in coming 10 to 20 years will look nothing like nursing of today. With emergence of new technologies, new medication and changes in public attitude towards health care and shrinking workforce the profession is verge to remake itself. Health care is increasingly becoming a social responsibility in which nursing is an integral part. Many new trends in nursing are likely to develop in future. These new trends will result from very rapid changes taking place in all sphere of life especially in medical and health care profession. These trends and many others provide the background for nursing in the new century. The future will bring both challenges and concern for nursing profession. This chapter deals with current trends in nursing practice and nursing education alongside the future trends of nursing profession.

Influencing Factors in Current Nursing Practice

A variety of factors is there which influence the nursing practice in many ways. The considerable factors and their effects in nursing practice are briefly discussed (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Influencing factors in nursing practice

Influencing factors	Impact on nursing practice
The national economy	Every individual should get health care as a right of citizenship. In some states there is health insurance coverage is linked to full time employment. Many unemployed and uninsured person delayed in seeking needed care because of fearing high cost of medicine and health care. The national income trends also influence the salaries of health care provider.
Availability of health-related information	Consumers are getting up to date and accurate health information due to increase availability of website, medical and health journals.
Health care consumer role	Increased knowledge of health care consumer influenced nursing practice. Nurses expected to be through with current information, modern trends, new technologies to maintain nursing standard of practice.
Legislation	Nursing practice also affected by legislation. Legislation directs patient's rights, right to dignified death, right to know the treatment, etc. and thus influence nursing practice.
Consumer marketing	Advertisement of different companies and institution in magazines, newspaper, television or other media influence the decision of consumer. Nurses should address the truthfulness of the advertisement and to present balance information to clients.
Increased use of alternative medicine	Increased use of alternative medicine like homeopathy, naturopathy, and specific treatment like yoga, prayer, hypnotism have an impact on nursing practice.

Contd...

Influencing factors	Impact on nursing practice
Variety of settings for care	Except the traditional hospital setting, now there is diversification in care setting. Nurses should prepare and upgraded themselves to fit within this variety of settings. Nurses should adapt the technologies of different settings, make trusting relationship with client and family members and updated ownself to fit with the changing situation.
Increased use of unlicensed assistive personnel	Health care providers who help nurses and physicians provide patient care is unlicensed assistive personnel (UAP). They can perform simple nursing tasks like making bed, providing bath or hygiene care, etc. Although nurses assume the overall responsibility regarding patient assigned care but problems arises about delegation and supervision. Nurses need to be more knowledgably related to delegation of responsibility among UAP to avoid legal matters.
Health care policy	Every profession has its own policy. Nursing profession itself has professional bodies with different rules, regulations, policies which provide care with legal safety, support change and positively Influence health outcome. Being a professional, nurse should aware about the policies related to consumer care and updated her with certain changes.
Increased autonomy	The different expanded roles of nurses, societal changes, consumer awareness and complexity in care influence in autonomy of these profession.
Women's movement	Previously only the single women can practice nursing. With the societal change, role change of women and empowerment of women gave provision for women to choice variety of profession as a career. Thus nursing also becomes a positive choice of women as a career where societal views of nursing as a women's profession affect men's entry into nursing.
Collective bargaining	A common form of negotiation to seek better wages and working conditions is collective bargaining which has resulted in major improvements in wages, benefits and working conditions for nurses. Nursing become more attractive as a career choice with this improvement.

Issues and Trends in Current Nursing Practice

Nursing have undergone dynamic changes in its scope of practice. Society's values influence in changes in professional nursing. Health care cost containment, health care setting, rising consumerism, technological advancement, availability of resources, women empowerment, political influences, changes of health policies are some factors which have a great impact on today's nursing practice.

Today's Health Care Settings

A person may face tremendous conflict and array of settings while seeking health care today. Some health care setting focuses on diagnosis and treatment whereas other concentrate on health promotion and disease prevention, other may highlights on rehabilitation. Varieties and increased number of health care settings can make care fragmented and more specific. Now not only institutionalization care, ambulatory center, daycare center, community health care has increased in number which has a great impact on today's nursing practice. Nurses need to be more skillful and knowledgeable in her field and should be aware regarding current social and technological changes.

Consumerism

Person or family in need for health care is termed as consumer. The public expectations that it will have a voice in determining the type, quality and cost of healthcare is receives is the 'consumerism'. Today's consumers are informed and more assertive regarding their rights in the area of health care delivery. Nowadays client's demand and expectation influence the health care decisions.

Technological Advances

Technological advancement significantly changed health care and drastically altered the profile of the hospitalized client. Beside that nursing profession continue to affect by technological advance. Previously nurses relied on their experience, observation and intuition to assess patient, provide care or giving health teaching but today technological advancement force nursing profession to depend upon science and nurses are translating the newest findings into care for their client benefit.

Nursing Public Perception

Perception regarding nursing has changed as increasing urbanization have a great impact on health care.

Availability and Accessibility of Resources

Access to health care services means a person's ability to find and to receive care from a health care provider. Though number of health care agency has been increased but the increased cost of the health care delivery system create burden on the consumer. Besides that person's income, residencies location, cultural belief also influences the availability of resources.

Women Empowerment

Nowadays attention to the need for quality and the recognition of universal human rights put a great impact on nursing profession. Nurses become more assertive regarding their professional rights and autonomy for client care.

Evidenced-based Practice

Evidence-based nursing is the process by which nurses make clinical decisions using the best available research evidence. By identifying and analyzing the best available scientific evidence nurses are steadily developing further guideline for clinical practice.

Expansion of Employment Opportunities

Nursing practice trends includes a growing variety of employment setting in which nurses have greater independence, autonomy and respect as members of the health care team. Nursing roles continue to expand and develop broadening the focus of nursing care and providing a more holistic and all encompassing domain.

Present Day Nursing

Social issues and related concern are linked to health care provision affects nursing practice. Previously nursing education involved a strict academic program and strong, compact clinical duty. A dress code was strictly maintained and majority of them remain unmarried. But today's nursing personnel are much more diverse population who maintain balance between a professional career and a personal adult life. Today's issue will influence tomorrow's prospect. The profession should maintain its dynamic character to meet society's health care needs.

Future of Nursing Practice

The glimpses of past nursing practice and current nursing trends gives a broad view of nursing practice in future (Display 3.1). Nursing what we study means modern nursing or nursing advanced from the kindly ministrations of a mother or a neighbor to a highly organized service of today.

From the very beginning of the birth 'the earth' nurses and nourishes all the living creatures as a mother does and will do. Mother's minded is a temple as well as a hospital where is or are always her child admitted and nursed. Mothering mind neighbor is the actual founder of nursing we can say. Mother means who belongs to the qualities of an ideal mother, may be woman or man.

If we look back we find individuals were inspired to help one another in distress. This essential care still remains but time has come to change in our ideas about nursing. Today's aim is not only to relieve or give comfort to the patients but also help them to live up to their optimum health. The new emphasis is on health nursing—nursing the mind, the family as a whole and as a part of the community with the nurse as the health teacher.

Growing specialization in medicine, new tests and diagnostic procedures in with new equipments is resulting in trends towards increased specialization in nursing. Developments in other profession for scientific knowledge influence also trends in the nursing profession. Like other specialized health team, more trained specialized nurse is required to meet the more specific nursing functions. Developments are showing the need for a deeper therapeutic relationship between the nurse and the patient. Advances in technology tend to take the nurse to reach in a higher degree to make relationship with the need of the individual and the community. Future trends are likely to show an effort to make the balance.

Nursing is a profession, it is not simply a collection of skills or a nurse is not simply a person trained to perform specific tasks but also by practices try to make relationship with the patients

Display 3.1: Possible future changes in nursing practice

- Uniform licensing after every five year in all states of India.
- There should an examination for relicensing to ensure each nurse has updated knowledge.
- · More programs on higher education by establishing new institutions providing masters and doctoral degree.
- Provision for more certification programmed.
- A need to change traditional uniform to make work easier.
- More management program will introduced to make nurses effective manager.
- Uniform base level of nursing.
- Emergence of more specifies organization in different field of nursing.
- Equal pay scale with other graduate and post graduates.
- Separate designation for nursing of health services so that nursing related decisions will be taken by nursing personnel, thus ensuring empowerment of nursing.
- There should be an eligibility of nursing students to sit for civil service examination.
- Provision for more research and publication of research topics other than nursing journal.
- Decrease in disparity of nurse and patient ratio existing in present situation.
- Provision of night allowance, emergency allowance, diet allowance.

to give them, relief, comfort and to live up to their optimum health. Untiring efforts of nurses' dedication to achieving the aim of becoming a profession will give sure reward as a successful future professionalism.

It has after been a difficult struggle giving real courage and vision by nursing leaders in the face of serious obstacles. Today nurses enjoy many rights and privileges, though derived standards are still not achieved in all areas, because nursing leaders are still struggling to achieve that.

Nursing today provides ever widening scope of opportunity for service. With present trends leading towards greater opportunities, verities of services and growing social and professional recognition, it should be exciting and challenging to become a member of this profession. Clients, their family members and other health team members of the health team rely on nurses for informed, critically analyzed judgments.

As we learn to live selflessly and work together to build up this new spirit we become a lasting force in national life-a force for healing and uniting, a force for moral strength and therefore initiations of a new quality of health. Within this milieu with the influence of arenas of medicine, science, research, political and economic policy we have the opportunity to shape the profession's future.

CURRENT AIMS OF NURSING EDUCATION

The aims of nursing education are:

- There should be two level of basic nursing education: One level is BSc/diploma and the other level is ANM.
- All school of nursing should be upgraded to the BSc level.
- All present ANM schools of nursing to be attached to district hospitals.
- Selection of students must be based on some criteria.
- Nursing schools should have independent budgets and teaching facilities.
- Continuing education programs should be provided for nursing staff on a regular basis.
- · Recommendations from the INC should be enforced.

CURRENT EDUCATIONAL TREND AND ISSUES IN NURSING

The Indian Nursing Council is a statutory body that regulates nursing education in the country through prescription, inspection, examination, certification and maintaining its stand for a uniform syllabus at each level of nursing education. The strive for maintenance of a uniform standard and pattern of nursing education has curbed creative development and experiments for expansion of nursing into newer horizons of caring and function. Trends in nursing education changes from basic general nursing to doctorate education in nursing. There are both non-university and university nursing program including six levels of nursing education in India today. These are:

- Multipurpose health worker female training
- Female health supervisor training
- · General nursing and midwifery
- Graduate nursing education: BSc nursing, Post Basic BSc nursing
- · Post graduate nursing education
- MPhil and PhD program.

The elaborate description about this course was discussed in chapter 1. Here Table 3.2 gives a brief overview regarding current educational trends in nursing.

Table 3.2: Current trends in nursing education

		Description			
Program	Courses	Started in the year	Entrance qualification	Duration of course	Prospect
Non University program	Multipurpose health worker female training	1977	10th class pass	18 months	The focus is on community health nursing. After completing the course candidates are eligible for working in subcenter.
	Female health supervisor training	1977		6 months	This course was previously known as health visitor training course. This course is being conducted in 21 centers in the country.
	General nursing and Midwifery	1871	12th standard passed in arts or science, age 17 years, for woman	3 years including six month internship	Changing trends, political issues, and health policies has greater influences on course. Schools of nursing are attached to teaching hospitals and every institute should have hostel for students. Three board examinations are conducted. Broad scope for work in hospital, community, home, clinics.
University program	BSc Nursing	1946 in Delhi and CMC Vellore	12th pass with science and at least 45% marks in previous qualifying examination, completed 17 years of age	4 years including internship	First university education program was started in Delhi and Vellore. At present under several universities the course in running on. The graduate nursing course prepare future nurse with bedside care, develop leadership quality, offers a broad base for foundation of a holistic perspective to health and caring.
	Post Basic BSc Nursing	1962	2 years experience after passing GNM and candidate should have registration	2 years	At present there are many colleges offering the course. At the end of the each year university conducted an examination. The scope for work and study increases after passing the course for registered nurses.
	Post Basic BSc Nursing, in distance education	1992	2 years experience after passing GNM and candidate should have registration	3 years	It was recognized by INC. Working scope is in the field of administration, basic care, educational institute, community field
	Postgraduate nursing education	1959 in RAK college, Delhi	The required qualification is passing graduation in	2 years	This course is designed to prepare specialization in five major nursing field including community health nursing, medical surgical nursing,

contd...

		Description			
Program	Courses	Started in the year	Entrance qualification	Duration of course	Prospect
			nursing from any university and minimum 2 years experience		pediatrics nursing, obstetrics gynecological nursing and psychiatric nursing. Besides clinical subject specialty students also taught research, education and other human relation subjects. The candidate shall submit a dissertation in the field of his/her specialty. This program prepares nursing personnel who are professionally equipped, creative, self directed and socially motivated to effectively deal with day-to-day problems within the existing constraints and this act as an agent of social changes.
	MPhil Nursing	1986 in RAK college of nursing Delhi	Masters in nursing from any university	The course is of one year full time and two years part time in duration.	For strengthening the research foundations of the nurses for encouraging research attitudes and problem-solving capabilities, master of philosophy program in nursing was started.
	PhD Nursing	From 1992 Mahe Manipal started PhD program	Masters in nursing	3–5 years	Now many universities provide the program include Rajiv Gandhi university of health sciences, SNDT University, Delhi University etc. The INC has recently initiated a project on starting a PhD program in nursing through support from the WHO.

Nursing education has expanded considerably post independence. University education in nursing brought about changes in nursing education. The type of nurses require today is an 'all round personality'. Education brings changes in behavior of the individual in a desirable manner. It aims at all round development of an individual to become mature, self-sufficient, intellectually, culturally refined, socially efficient and spiritually advanced.

Future Direction for Nursing Education

Present feature of nursing education will influence future direction of nursing education. These are:

- Curricula and learning activities should develop student's critical thinking skill.
- Curricula should emphasize student's ability to communicate, from interpersonal relationship and make decision collaborate with patients, family and other collogues.

- Number of advance practice nurse should be increased.
- Cost effectiveness of care should be a focus in nursing curricula.
- Continuing faculty development activities should support excellence in practice, teaching and research.

Challenges in Nursing Education

Nursing education in India going through a major transitional period because the goals of nursing education is far ahead of what is actually taking place. This gap is a serious problem which will only be solved when nursing authorities such as the Indian Nursing Council and the state registration council are given the power they need to enforce rules and regulations in both nursing education and practice. The challenges exist in today's nursing education are:

Examination System

Nursing is a profession which possesses both theoretical and practical aspects. A nursing student has to fulfill both the requirement in a certain period of time. Evaluation the nursing students through yearly university examination does not properly judge a student's every aspect. Day to day observation both in practical and theoretical field is the best tool as nursing deals with human life.

Curriculum

Nursing curriculum has so many subjects to cover in a brief period of time. Among the subjects the practical applicability and scope is not possible for the nurses. So, there is an urgent need to revise the curriculum to make it more feasible and rational with the current scenario.

Student Status

Today's nursing students like other all educational institute appear to be engaged in different movement which have disturbed the entire educational atmosphere in the country to the core. The youths of the day are showing their discontentment by behaving against social norms in a manner which bewilders the elders. This influences student performance as a whole.

Inadequate Resource

Money, manpower and material are essential resources for smooth running of professional activity. Adequate funds, good infrastructural facilities, highly qualified professional are very essential for running nursing educational program.

Brain Drain

Due to inadequate opportunities of professional placement, less suitable working environment, low salary structure may cause migration of the nursing personnel from India to abroad. If the educational system modified by observing the delimits of nursing practice and service it will decrease brain drain.

Problem Related to Institute

Inadequate infrastructure facilities, less professional staff, lack of coordination, lack of equipments can hinder the proper learning of the nursing students.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Long essay:

1. Describe the current trends and issues in nursing education.

(WBUHS 2014, 2012, 2011)

- 2. Discuss the future of nursing practice.
- 3. Describe the current trends in nursing service/practice. (WBUHS 2013, 2009), (MGRMU March 2006)
- 4. Describe the trends influencing nursing practice. (RGUHS March 2013, February 2011), (MGRMU February 2011)

Short essay:

1. List down the challenges in nursing education.

(WBUHS 2014)

2. Enumerate the future of nursing education.

Short answer:

- 1. Evidenced-based practice.
- 2. Women empowerment and nursing.
- 3. Current aims in nursing education.

Textbook on Nursing Foundation

for Post Basic BSc Nursing

Salient Features

- · A comprehensive textbook compiled and completely updated as per revised INC syllabus for undergraduate nursing students
- Ensures to meet the national standards
- Covers all the major concepts of nursing
- Language of the text is lucid and unambiguous
- · Key concepts, key terms, figures, tables and displays are for quick revision and ready-to-learn without going through all the text
- Equally essential for BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing and diploma students
- A lifelong companion for nursing students.

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