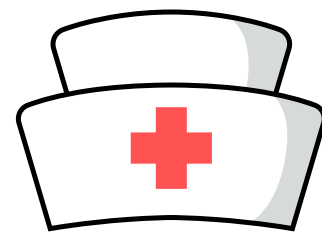




Unit 1 The Role of Nurses in Selected Clinical





LEARNING OBJECTIVES

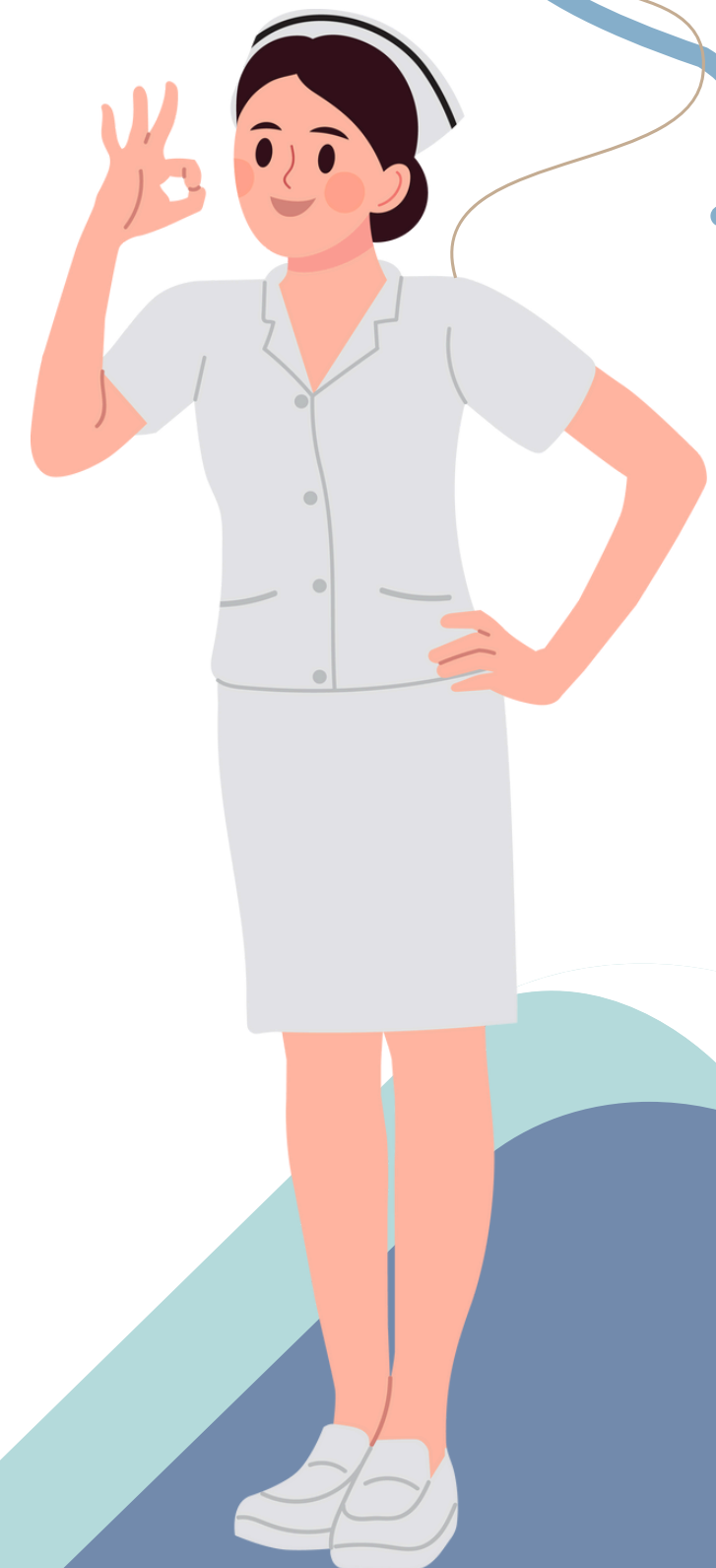
- 1. To understand the roles and responsibilities of nurses in healthcare settings.**
- 2. To explain the differences between practicing as a team member and as a team leader.**



1. THE ROLE OF THE NURSE IN THE HEALTHCARE TEAM

1.1 Significance

Performing duties in accordance with one's roles and responsibilities is essential for all practitioners of nursing and midwifery. Nurses must not only work under the laws and regulations of the Nursing and Midwifery Council but also comply with professional standards within various contexts, depending on each nurse's role and scope of practice in their specific position. These roles may include both assigned duties and those defined by professional qualifications, consistent with the nurse's job level. This ensures the efficient and appropriate use of human resources and maximizes benefits for the organization, the nurses, the patients, and the general public.



1. THE ROLE OF THE NURSE IN THE HEALTHCARE TEAM

1.2 Roles and Responsibilities of a Registered Nurse

Registered Nurse (RN) refers to a person who has completed a Bachelor of Nursing Science or an equivalent degree from a university or nursing college accredited by the Nursing and Midwifery Council, and who holds a valid first-level nursing license or first-level nursing and midwifery license (not suspended, revoked, or expired). Registered nurses provide health services in government agencies, state enterprises, or private sectors. In this context, registered nurses are government officers working under the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health.





1. THE ROLE OF THE NURSE IN THE HEALTHCARE TEAM

The roles and responsibilities of a registered nurse refer to the performance of duties within the scope of nursing practice in accordance with professional roles. Nurses are not only responsible for providing direct patient care but also for ensuring that nursing services are delivered with the highest quality and efficiency. Therefore, their responsibilities may include administrative or clinical functions.

According to the Nursing Division (1996) the roles and responsibilities of registered nurses can be classified into two categories below:





1. THE ROLE OF THE NURSE IN THE HEALTHCARE TEAM



Roles and Responsibilities of Nurses According to the Functions of Healthcare Service Facilities

These refer to the duties and responsibilities assigned to nurses who hold important positions within healthcare organizations to achieve institutional goals and comply with governmental policies. These roles may involve administrative or clinical responsibilities, such as those of a case manager, advanced practice nurse, ward head nurse, division head, unit head, assistant chief nurse, or chief nurse.

In practice, professional nurses must not only perform their duties within the defined scope of nursing practice as structured under the regional administrative system of their organization but also fulfill additional responsibilities assigned to them.

1.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN PRACTICE

3.1 Chief Nurse

A. Operational Roles

B. The Planning Functions

C. Coordination Functions

D. Service Functions





1.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN PRACTICE

3.2. Division Head

Serve as a mid-level nursing administrator authorized and assigned by the Chief Nurse to manage nursing operations within a specialized area such as surgery, internal medicine, etc. in accordance with their expertise. Responsibilities include monitoring, supervising, and controlling nursing practice standards; managing workforce, environment, equipment, and materials; providing supervision, guidance, consultation, and problem-solving for nursing service systems and the performance of ward head nurses and all nursing personnel under their supervision. The goal is to ensure that nursing services align with organizational policies and achieve institutional objectives. In addition, the position involves organizing and overseeing clinical training for nursing students and other health science students, as well as summarizing and reporting results directly to the Chief Nurse.





1.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN PRACTICE

Nature of Work

A. Operational Functions

B. The Planning Functions

- 1. Develop operational plans to improve the quality of nursing**
- 2. Plan adequate nursing workforce levels consistent with the provision of nursing services**
- 3. Develop supervision plans for nursing activities at all levels within the area of responsibility.**
- 4. Collaborate with educational institutions**

C. Coordination Functions

- 1. Coordinate within the assigned unit and/or with related departments**
- 2. Provide consultation advice, and recommendations to relevant departments**

D. Service Functions



1.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN PRACTICE

3.3 Ward Head Nurse

A. Nursing Operations

B. Planning Functions

- 1. Develop operational plans for nursing quality**
- 2. Plan and allocate nursing workforce to ensure adequate staffing and alignment with nursing service needs**
- 3. Plan nursing supervision to ensure compliance with established nursing standards and practice guidelines.**
- 4. Coordinate with educational institutions**

C. Coordination Functions

- 1. Coordinate with relevant departments**
- 2. Collaborate with clinical instructors**
- 3. Coordinate with the multidisciplinary healthcare team**

D. Service Functions



1.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN PRACTICE

Nature of Work

A. Operational Functions

B. Planning Functions

- 1. Develop plans and projects for advanced nursing services**
- 2. Plan, organize, and monitor care systems**
- 3. Plan and manage the utilization of materials**

C. Coordination Functions

- 1. Collaborate with multidisciplinary teams**
- 2. Coordinate with healthcare teams**
- 3. Empower patients to engage actively in their own care**



1.3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES IN PRACTICE

3.5 Case Manager Nurse

Nature of Work

A. Operational Functions

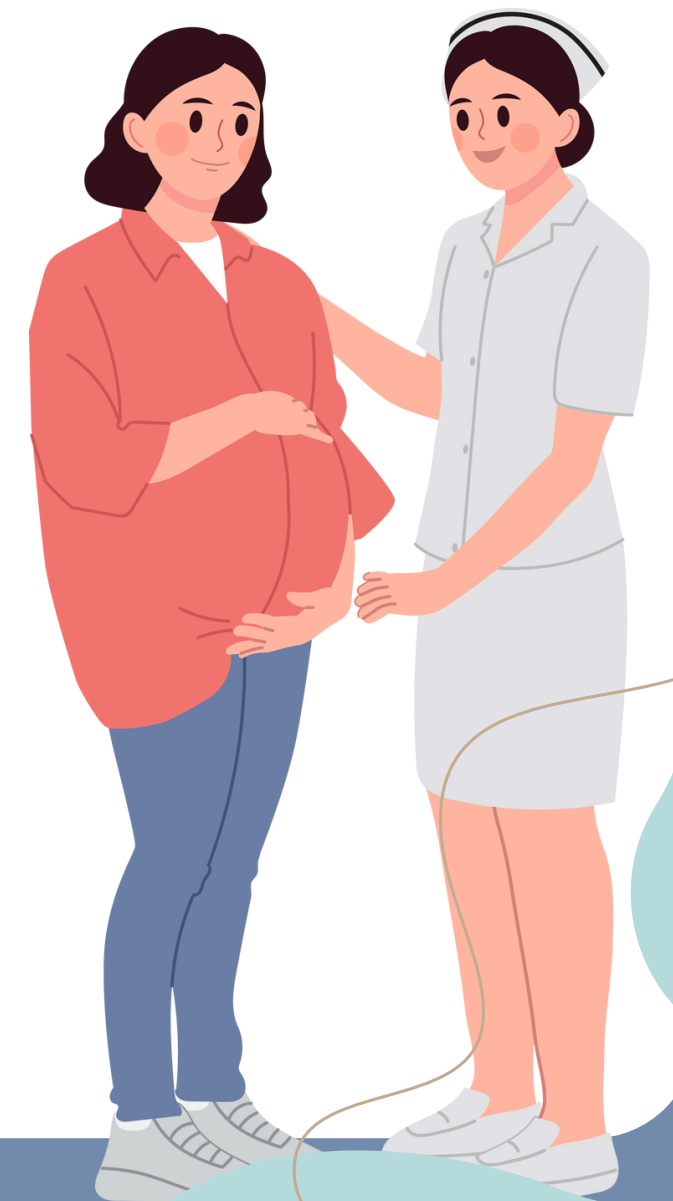
B. Planning Functions

- 1. Develop plans and projects**
- 2. Plan of organize and oversee the implementation of care systems**
- 3. Plan of human resource allocation**

C. Coordination Functions

- 1. Collaborate with multidisciplinary teams**
- 2. Coordinate with healthcare teams**
- 3. Strengthen collaboration with community networks and organizations**

D. Service Functions



1.4 FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE AND SCOPE OF THE NURSING PROFESSION

1.4.1 Core Foundational Knowledge

-  1. **The Nursing Process** A systematic framework for problem-solving that includes five key steps: data collection nursing diagnosis, care planning, nursing implementation and evaluation.
-  2. **Scientific and Medical Knowledge** Understanding basic medical sciences to assess symptoms, screen for diseases formulate nursing diagnoses, and manage medications accurately.



1.4 FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE AND SCOPE OF THE NURSING PROFESSION

1.4.1 Core Foundational Knowledge

-  **3. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention** Providing health education, immunizations, early disease screening, and promoting patients ability to care for themselves.

-  **4. Clinical Nursing Skills Competency** in emergency care, patient transfer, medication management, and the use of healthcare technology and equipment.



1.5 SCOPE OF NURSING PRACTICE

- 1. Independent Role**
- 2. Collaborative Role**

Working with multidisciplinary teams to translate medical care plans into practice, assist patients, and coordinate holistic care delivery.

- 3. Holistic Care**

Providing patient-centered care that considers physical, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions based on individual needs.

- 4. Quality Development**
- 5. Ethics and Professional Conduct**



1.6 KEY ROLES IN THE CONTEMPORARY HEALTHCARE CONTEXT

1. Holistic Care Provider

Delivers comprehensive care across physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and economic dimensions

2. Case Manager and Care Coordinator

Acts as a liaison ensuring continuity of care between hospital and community settings, including home care and home-ward programs

3. Educator and Health Promoter

Provides accurate, up-to-date health information and self-care education (e.g., inhaler use, symptom monitoring)



1.6 KEY ROLES IN THE CONTEMPORARY HEALTHCARE CONTEXT

4. Advocate and Patient Safety Guardian

Protects patient rights, manages clinical risks, and ensures medication safety (e.g., management of high-alert drugs)

5. Researcher and Innovator

Utilizes evidence-based practice (EBP) and participates in developing innovations to improve healthcare systems



1.7 ROLE ADAPTATION IN A CHANGING HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

- 1. Care for Older Adults and Complex Patients:**
Involves frailty assessment and comprehensive management of chronic conditions
- 2. Nursing in Crisis and Disaster Situations:**
Includes epidemic response and emergency preparedness
- 3. Use of Health Information Technology (Telemedicine/Digital Health)**
Involves remote monitoring, consultation, and digital health data management





2. INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION (IPC)

2.1 Concepts, Principles, and Importance of IPC

Interprofessional Collaboration (IPC) refers to interactive teamwork among professionals from multiple disciplines to achieve common goals in patient care.

Core IPC Competency Domains

- 1. Interprofessional values and ethics**
- 2. Clarification of roles and responsibilities**
- 3. Effective communication and mutual respect**
- 4. Collaborative teamwork**
- 5. Interprofessional reflection**
- 6. Population- and community-centered care**
- 7. Advantage : Enhances patient safety and quality of care, reduces medical errors, and improves team effectiveness**





2. INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION (IPC)

Facilitating Factors

- 1. Supportive Leadership:** Visionary leadership and clear governance systems
- 2. Structured Communication:** Use of standardized tools such as SBAR (Situation–Background–Assessment–Recommendation).
- 3. Interprofessional Education (IPE):** Joint learning across professions to enhance understanding, respect, and collaboration





2. INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION (IPC)

Challenges and Barriers

- 1. Rigid Organizational Hierarchies: Limit open communication and shared decision-making.**
- 2. Role Ambiguity Leads to overlap or gaps in care delivery.**
- 3. Differences in Professional Culture and Values: Resistance to change and collaboration barriers**



3. ACCOUNTABILITY TO PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND THE TEAM



3.1 Accountability to Patients and Families

1. Ethical Principles

Applying the principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, autonomy, and justice in nursing decision-making

2. Legal and Professional Accountability

Performing duties in accordance with professional standards and being accountable for nursing decisions and actions.

3. Patient and Family Centered Care

Engaging patients and families in care planning and decision-making

4. Advocacy

Acting as the patient's voice when they are unable to express themselves or make informed decisions.



3. ACCOUNTABILITY TO PATIENTS, FAMILIES, AND THE TEAM



3.2 Accountability to the Team and Organization

1. Triage and Initial Decision Making

Conducting preliminary assessments to determine patient urgency and ensure safety while awaiting physician care

2. Collaboration and Governance

Promoting open communication and a Just Culture by reporting errors transparently and participating in corrective systems

3. Organizational Culture and Engagement

Fostering a supportive, learning-oriented environment that encourages innovation and professional growth



4. DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LEADERSHIP SOFT SKILLS

4.1 Effective Communication Skills

- 1. The Importance of Soft Skills in Nursing Practice**
- 2. Therapeutic Communication**
- 3. Active Listening and the Use of Silence**
- 4. Two-Way Communication**
- 5. Appropriate Language and Tone**
- 6. Communication in Specialized Situations**

Adapting communication strategies in sensitive contexts, such as:

- Family communication regarding care decisions,**
- Breaking bad news with empathy and professionalism,**
- Conflict resolution through assertive yet respectful dialogue.**



4. DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND LEADERSHIP SOFT SKILLS

4.2.1 Characteristics of Nursing Leaders in the 21st Century

- 1. Transformational Leadership**
- 2. Conceptual and Systems Thinking**
- 3. Team-Building and Conflict Management Skills**
- 4. Self-Development and Staff Development**





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**ANY
QUESTION?**





Thank You

