

Nurses in a Leadership Role

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Nursing is a dynamic and demanding profession that warrants inspiring leaders.¹ Nurses play a pivotal part in achieving the healthcare goals by being the most important link in the process of healthcare delivery.² Nurses have a prime responsibility of rendering effective nursing care, providing evidence-based nursing care, and working toward optimum quality standards at all times. Strong leadership is critical if the vision of a transformed healthcare system is to be realized. Effective leadership in nursing practices has immensely contributed to the growth of the organization.³ Of late, Huston has mentioned eight essential nurse leader competencies (2020) to meet the organizational goals. They include:

- A global perspective or mindset regarding healthcare and changes in the nursing profession.
- Technology skills that would impact patient care.
- Expert decision-making skills.
- The skill to create organizational cultures that infuse quality healthcare and ensures patient and employee safety.
- The ability to comprehend and appropriately intervene in political processes.
- Improve patient outcomes through effective collaboration and inter-professional cooperation.
- The ability to balance authenticity and performance expectations.
- The ability to respond immediately to the changes and adapt to the situation.⁴

Over the last few decades, nurses have gradually adopted greater responsibilities. The coronavirus disease-2019 (COVID-19) pandemic is a stark reminder of the vital role the nurses have contributed and the potential that nurses possess, to address big healthcare challenges. Nurses in leadership roles have greatly contributed to a high-quality work environment.⁵ They create a

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professional environment and foster a culture where all healthcare professionals significantly aid in the patient outcome.⁶ They also serve as change agents and continually look for ways that impact the healthcare system.

CONCLUSION

Nursing leaders innovate and create a vibrant, exciting practice setting in which nurses deliver safe, accessible, timely, and high-quality care for the patients.

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