Cultural Competence in Nursing

Carolyn Holte

School or Institution Name (University at Place or Town, State)

Nurses can be culturally competent by continually striving hard towards working effectively within the individual's cultural context, community or family from a diverse cultural background. Being culturally competent corresponds to the process, used by nurses to work efficiently and effectively within the dedicated world related to the patient's culture. It is believed by the nurse who is culturally competent that each family or person deserves an equal and fair healthcare opportunity and access. The questions which need to be asked and answered can include the place where the patient or the family of the patient is from, the ideas of the patient or the family regarding the illness or the wellness faced by the patient or the healthcare expectations or needs of the patient (Douglas et al., 2014). These questions are essential along with the care which is patient-centric, advocacy, respect, and empathy. It is clearly understood by the culturally competent nurses that every person comprises of some uniqueness when it comes to the beliefs or behavior of the person, respecting the patient along with the role played by culture to define the illness and health of the patient. The quality healthcare system which serves a diverse population has a necessary duty to provide the required language service which includes the provision of translators and interpreters. This service must correspond to all of the processes with informed consent, documents related to consumer rights and materials related to consumer education (Campbell, 2018).

The United States of America is rich with diverse culture and different ethnicities residing with families including Hispanic and Asian ethnicities. These ethnicities have a distinct culture and need to be addressed accordingly by the health care departments. Being a part of the nursing team in the Mount Sinai Hospital located at Madison Avenue in New York City, I observed that our team comprised of nurses belonging to different ethnicities and cultures. Each nurse was taught to respond to the patients with the same cultural or ethnical background as them, which helped the patient to calm down during the initial stages of the treatment. This also allowed the patient to open up more and feel relaxed among the physicians or doctors treating the patient. The primary objective of the authorities handling the hospital was to provide the patient with an environment where the patient feels stable and that he is being treated by one of his own. Mental satisfaction can be very effective as mental stability leads to faster recovery which has been evident from the success rate of the hospital.

References

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