Community health/public health nursing practice vs. hospital base nursing practice

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Community-based nursing and hospital-based nursing are the two sides of the same coin. Both the nursing practices are aimed at promoting the health of people and providing them with quality care. The community health nursing primarily deals with providing care to people in a community where they live, work and gather formally and informally (Nies & McEwen, 2014). This is also referred to as public health nursing. On the other hand, nursing practices in an institution such as hospitals of different levels is hospital based nursing practice.

 In the case of community health nursing, nurses visit the communities and provide need-based services to different patients. The nature of health service offered by community-based nurses is centered on promotive and preventive health care. In addition, it is also focused on rehabilitation or continuous care. Patients are provided with the primary level of care and generalized health care and nursing service are provided to patients. One of the primary nursing responsibilities in community healthcare is to educate patients and promote better nurse-patient communication which is the key to quality care. These nurses can play an independent role and take situation-based decisions. They act as an educator, counselor, direct care provider, and an advocate as well and therefore they are essential to strengthen public health systems (Kub, Kulbok, Miner, & Merrill, 2017).

The hospital-based nurse has the responsibility to serve the patients that demand health care from the hospital they visit. The essential service provided to hospital-based patients is in the form of diagnostic and therapeutic care, which is of secondary or tertiary level. The physician is the main medical authority in case of hospital-based nursing and nurses and they often work in teams and under the supervision of a physician. They provide medical care to some hospitalized patients and do not develop long-term relations with them.

# References

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