Importance of Ophthalmic Nursing in Primary Healthcare Systems

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Ophthalmic Nursing; Primary Healthcare; Specialized Nursing-care; Cost-Effective

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Specialized nursing care
We have arrived at a new era in nursing care. Nurses are now active in both hospital-based healthcare and community health initiatives (1). Community and healthcare provider expectations have increased over the past 20 years largely because of great advances in technology, new healthcare delivery systems, and changing priorities. Advanced practice educational programs include training and developing nurse practitioners to be competent and independent in running their own office, which includes starting their practice and providing care to their own patients. Therefore, specialized nurses need to adjust, expand, and integrate their practical skills to respond to the growing demands and expectations of patients, individuals, and decision makers (2). An ideal specialty nurse should be able to make clinical decisions based on modern medicine and technology considering patient welfare. Decisions should also be consistent with the nature of patients being cared. Trainees in specialized nursing programs are generally registered nurses who wish to increase their level of knowledge, expertise, and experience to provide appropriate services and to meet the changing needs of healthcare consumers (3).

Role of ophthalmic nurses in the advancement of visual care
Ophthalmic nurses can assess a patient’s visual potential and his or her capability to function independently. Ophthalmic nurses also help patients overcome psychological obstacles and provide necessary assistance to increase patient independence. Ophthalmic nurses can educate patients on and increase awareness of public resources and available services for the visually impaired (2-3).

The future of ophthalmic nursing depends on the cultural, social, and financial background of each community. The most prominent feature unique to
Ophthalmic nursing is a specialized field that focuses on providing care to patients with ocular conditions. Ophthalmic nurses are responsible for evaluating, diagnosing, and treating patients with ocular diseases/disorders. They also manage medications, perform surgeries, and assist with early treatment of ocular diseases/disorders. Ophthalmic nurses contribute to cost-effective health care, which is of high priority to both government-funded and privately funded institutions. The future of ophthalmic nursing is bright, and with increased visibility, more candidates will be attracted to this career path. Ophthalmic nurses play a key role throughout the entire domain of ophthalmic health. Many studies have confirmed a positive correlation between nurse competency and patient care quality. Therefore, ophthalmic nurses should commit to continued learning, which is necessary to develop and maintain the highest standard of care. This should be facilitated by nurses themselves and overseen by program developers and others involved in multidisciplinary group care.
would pave the way for better healthcare systems. It has been suggested that training courses dedicated to developing competent ophthalmic nurses and public seminars introducing this important healthcare field would be beneficial to the healthcare systems.

DISCLOSURE

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