

Philosophy of Nursing

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A nurse is their own person with their own ideas but some ways of thinking are beneficial to nurses. Their philosophy shapes the way they work and interact.

To develop an accurate philosophy of nursing, one must contemplate the qualities of the endeavors to which a nurse obligates their heart and soul to.



A nurse commits to being the embodiment of altruism, charisma, empathy, and knowledge applied to the enterprise of protection, promotion, and enhancement of the holistic health states of all persons. This includes, and is not limited to a nurse's practice in the professional arena, but also a nurse takes this proclivity outside the workplace to uphold these ideals.

Nurses also must sustain an ever increasing knowledge base to allow for changes and improvements to the health care system.

As British philosopher, Allan Watts, likened his fellow philosophers to "intellectual yokels;" or someone who always wants to understand every new advent and apply that intellectual understanding to their pursuit of philosophy. So to should nurses reflect on their own knowledge base and strive to become a "nursing yokel," always yearning for new experiences and understanding to elevate the level of professionalism inherent in their application of nursing.

Furthermore, nurses are obligated to their fellow professionals, as an integral part of the health care team, to aid and improve the ability of their peers. This collegiality is essential to the upkeep of the trusted image a nurse has among their colleagues and the public. Additionally, this allows for greater cohesion between health care workers and provides the patients with requisite care that espouses the statement of nursing above.

Finally, a nurse must always remember to whom they are ultimately accountable; their patient. This accountability is first and foremost in upholding the principles a nurse represents.

A nurse should constantly be asking themselves whether or not the care they are providing is exceeding the expectations of their patients and bestowing health advancement to preserve the patient's health integrity. Moreover, a nurse must remain vigilant of the duty to themselves in the same regard by being able to self-evaluate: "Am I providing the exceptional, empathic, and optimal holistic care that my patient deserves and that I can be proud of?"

All this and more make up a nurse. Not only does a nurse perform these duties in a professional sense but also in a personal sense. In order for a nurse to be the holistic provider of excellence incarnate, a nurse must champion the same ideals in their everyday life. This is what being a nurse is all about.



About a Nurse



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