

Vulnerable Population

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Vulnerable Population of Homeless

Cultural competence is the ability to communicate and understand people from many different cultures. The importance of cultural competence is that to care for an individual, the nurses have to understand their culture. As we learn the importance of cultural competence, we know specific communication methods that break down the obstacles of providing appropriate care for a client (Hood, 2018). Many different cultures have different ways to be taken care of in the world today. As nurses, we need to have cultural competence because we communicate daily with people of other cultures, so we have to know how to understand each person and their beliefs. While learning cultural Having cultural competence sets a nurse up for excellence.

In today's society, homelessness has become more common and can happen because of unemployment, living expenses, and poverty. Homelessness can affect anyone and can include children, adults, the elderly, and young adults. Many homeless individuals are more prone to becoming ill and sick with disease, and hospitalization increases for these people (Maness, D. L., Khan, M., 2014). However, they differ from the general population. They experience long-term exposure to disease agents, overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, poor nutrition, sleep deprivation, violence, physical and emotional trauma, sexual abuse, and weather extremes. Limited education, mental illness, substance abuse, and distrust can affect their ability to respond appropriately to these adverse conditions and manage their medical problems.

Further, my bias or judgment towards the homeless would be that maybe they created this situation for themselves or that every homeless person is involved in substance abuse. And that is not the case. I feel as my reflection on this bias is that many homeless individuals are

misunderstood, and maybe they couldn't help the situation they are in. And this should not affect the care that they deserve like any other individual.

Therefore, my feelings about delivering care to the homeless population are that they require resources. If we as healthcare workers can provide them with the proper resources, maybe we can make a difference in their lives. Everyone has the right to health care, even if you are homeless or impoverished. If we weren't giving the same amount of care to every individual, then we wouldn't be doing our jobs as nurses.

References

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