

Nursing in the Modern Era (1960-1999)

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1960's - Nursing Education

- In 1964, the American Nurses Association announced that nurses should be educated only in 4 year programs.
- The ANA believed that nurses with a bachelor's degree would be more prepared to take care of more complex and advancing roles in healthcare.
- Nursing education today offers LPN, ADN, BSN, MSN, and DNP.
(Whelan, 2022)



1970's- Feminism

- In the 1970's, the Women's Rights Movement impacted the way nurses were treated.
 - They were promised access to more knowledge and power in the workplace.
 - Nurses became more autonomous.
 - They started to perform more technical medical procedures on patients.
- Nurses began to use their empowerment by altering from a role of "dutiful servant" to capable professionals who questioned physician's orders when necessary.
- By implementing Women's Rights in the 1970's, women are held to a much higher standard, and are no longer expected to only follow absurd orders from physicians.



(Fairman, 2022) (Hood, 2022, p. 56)

1980's- The role Medicare played in the future of nursing.

- In the 1980's healthcare costs increased due to new technology even though there was a recession.
 - In 1983, Medicare released a new system in an attempt to shorten hospitals stays.
 - The system caused hospitals immense financial losses leading to a decline in bedside nursing.
- Nurses begin their education in specialized fields.
 - Education in specialized fields of medicine guided skilled nurses back to the bedside.
 - RN's implemented the nursing process.
- Demand for nurses outside of the hospital also increased.

(Hood, 2022 p.56)



1990's- Nursing Shortage

- In the 1990's, nurses were being replaced by lesser skilled, unlicensed employees.
- They started this because they wanted to cut down on costs.
- An abundant amount of nurses also started to retire, which meant there was a higher need for patient care.
- Nurses started to become more attracted to other professions and patients started to suffer.

(Pender, 2021)



1990's- Nursing shortage

- The nursing shortage is still a concerning issue we are facing today.
- Nursing burnout is one of the many reasons to the nursing shortage today.
- Nurses are working and experiencing extreme burnout due to the shortage of staff, being overworked, and due to the lack of support. This is causing nurses to leave their professions.
- According to Haddad, Annamaraju, & Toney-Butler (2021), there will be at least one-third of the nursing population retired in the next 10-15 years. As the nursing population ages, the need for more healthcare services increases. This is happening because the boomer generation will finally be retired by 2029.



Citations

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