

Nursing Shortage

Name:

Institution:

Course:

Due date:

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Present day healthcare environment is demanding that there be nurses at a period when there is a critical shortage of workers to meet patient requirements. Despite registered nurses (RNs) being the single biggest team of health care experts in the United States, the rate of vacancies for the RNs is continually rising at in present time stands at 7.2%. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, even with the fact that there still is an expanding demand for nurses in both hospitals as well as the community; there is a projection of growth of the employment of RNs by as much as 26% by year 2024, which will be faster than the average of all professions (MacLean, Hassmiller, Shaffer, Rohrbaugh, Collier, & Fairman, 2014). Some of the reasons for the increase will be the increased demand for health care services by the aging populace, and the opening of doors by Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) which aims to oversee growth of health care access to unprecedented levels.

Some of the reasons why there is nursing shortage in the health care institutions include; the fading pipeline of new nurses as a result of a workers shortage that has led to thousands of potential learners being turned away; sudden population increment in numerous states, ACA presenting improved access, and a baby boom bubble that will need rigorous health care services (Buerhaus, Skinner, Auerbach, & Staiger, 2017). Notably, this has not been helped by the fact that numerous of these issues are happening at a period where quite a number of nurses are going into retirement. Continuously, the factor of nursing shortage in the United States has been impacted by the schools' incapacity to improve enrolment as a result of scarcity of nursing school faculty.

Conclusively, lower nursing staffing levels contribute to more patient mortality, failure to rescue patients as well as falls in the hospital. Additionally, additional care procedures outcomes that include; administration mistakes, missed nursing care and patient length of stay are

connected to lower nurse staffing levels. There is a need to deeply look at the problem of nursing shortage in the country since inadequate staffing could hamper nurses' efforts to conduct processes of care.

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### References

Buerhaus, P. I., Skinner, L. E., Auerbach, D. I., & Staiger, D. O. (2017). Four Challenges Facing the Nursing Workforce in the United States. *Journal of Nursing Regulation*, 8(2), 40-46.

MacLean, L., Hassmiller, S., Shaffer, F., Rohrbaugh, K., Collier, T., & Fairman, J. (2014). Scale, causes, and implications of the primary care nursing shortage. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 35, 443-457.

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