



Global Health and Nursing:

Transformations in nurses' roles in the 21st century

Gwen Sherwood, PhD, RN, FAAN
Professor and Associate Dean for Academic
Affairs

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Gwen.sherwood@unc.edu

Vice-President, Sigma Theta Tau
International Honor Society for Nursing



Global Health: introducing new challenges and opportunities for Nurses





Today we will...

- Consider some general principles about global health and the impact on nursing
- Global trends in nursing in education, practice and policy that are influencing nursing roles in the 21st century



Nurses in traditional Chinese medicine



Health care boundaries are rapidly changing.

- **Shrinking borders; we can be almost anywhere in the world in 36 hours.**
- **Health care tourism for affordable health care: Do nurses have a role?**





Matching nursing roles with the determinants of health and disease

- **Social**
- **Environment**
- **Physical**
- **Cultural**
- **Genetic**
- **Health system**

Health and
disease in a
community




Nurses roles in 21st century global health

How can nurses address Social considerations in global health?

What are economic realities that impact global health, and how can nurses improve access to care and help eliminate disparity?

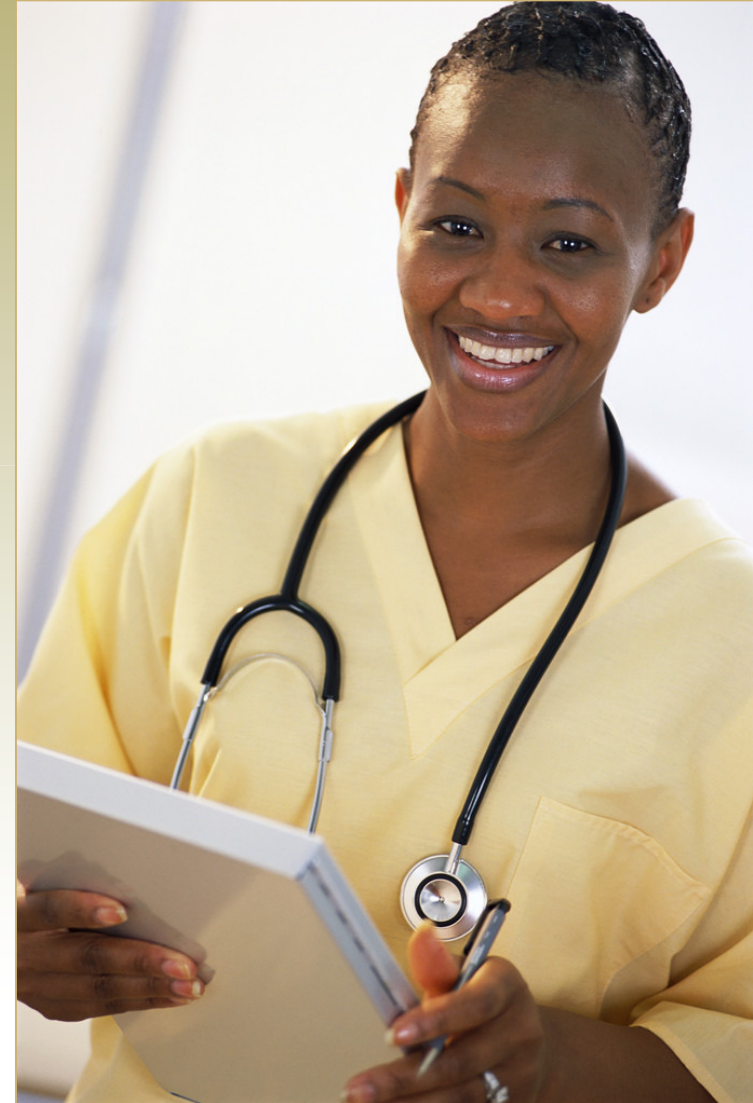
What are ethical issues?

How can nurses be impact policy related to global health issues?



Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing

- Knowledge
- Leadership
- Service
- Helping expand nurse capacity globally
- Rho Upsilon Chapter
- www.nursingsociety.org





Global Health or International Health?

International health describes health-related work across borders, and focuses more on the differences between countries.



**Global health
reflects an important
evolution in thinking
about health
issues in the world.**



Global Health or International Health

- Global Health is a world view examining health issues and concerns that transcend national borders, class, race, ethnicity and culture.
- stresses the commonality of health issues from the perspective of collective (partnership-based) action.

**Global health involves citizens of the world
Develops human understanding**



No matter where we live, our well-being depends on how health issues are managed around the world because of:

- Travel and Migration
- Inadequate public health infrastructure
- Urbanization
- Globalization of trade
- Aging and chronic diseases
- Epic natural disasters
- Infectious diseases





Are we preparing Nurses for roles in Global Health?

Contribute to saving lives by improving health throughout the world:

**advocacy,
building alliances and
communicating ideas
and best practices**





Nurses have an expanding role in Global Health

**child health and survival,
women's health,
HIV/AIDS,
infectious diseases and
emerging health threats.**





21st century Nurses engage in

- health service delivery, advocacy
- develop cooperation, policy, training and research
- bring groups together to network for global health:
non-governmental organizations, private companies,
and governments



Nurse preparation emerging global health threats...

- Bio-terrorism, 2001,
- SARS epidemic, 2003,
- Avian flu, 2003

Nurses roles in preparing for the threat from new diseases and lack of preparedness to respond to pandemics of potentially catastrophic proportions.

- Most nursing education does not prepare health professionals to respond effectively to public health threats in their communities or around the world.



Trends and transformations in 21st century nursing

- Globalization, work force issues and migration
- Education development and access
- Advanced practice nursing and specialty care
- Quality and safety issues
- Interprofessional education and experiences



Globalization, Migration, and Work Force



Migration: nurses and population shifts

- Issues of regulations and credentialing, work place tensions
- Talent drain
- Shifting population demographics e.g., USA where Hispanics are the majority population in several cities.
- Language to provide culturally sensitive care



Nurses expand access to care

- Geographically remote areas
- Medically underserved areas
- Primary care
- School health
- telehealth





Work force issues

- Nurses are the largest health professions work force
- Unprecedented demand and shortage
- Significant differences in education, nature of their work, and communication styles between nurses and physicians influence working relationships.
 - Keeping Patients Safe: Improving the Work Environment for Nurses (IOM)



Education development
and access, Advanced
practice nursing and
Specialty nursing



Constantly examine health care needs with Capacity to respond quickly with the educational preparation needed to reorient practice and curriculum.

Emerging needs are radically changing health care delivery.



How can we develop new Models for global health?

- Collaboration between schools of nursing
- Joint research projects
- Faculty and student exchanges
- Global health content in courses
- Course development for International health



Expanding educational capacity

Evidence: Education makes a difference:

Aiken (2003) study confirms the link between education level and health care outcomes:

Higher level of education of hospital's nursing staff resulted in lower mortality and lower incidence of failure to rescue

Global standards for nursing and midwifery

Cultivating nursing as a scholarly discipline is more than meeting supply and demand.

Educational Mobility

Nursing Knowledge
Development

Advanced Role Definition,
Standards and
Innovation

Enhanced Image and
Professional Growth





Developing Educational Mobility

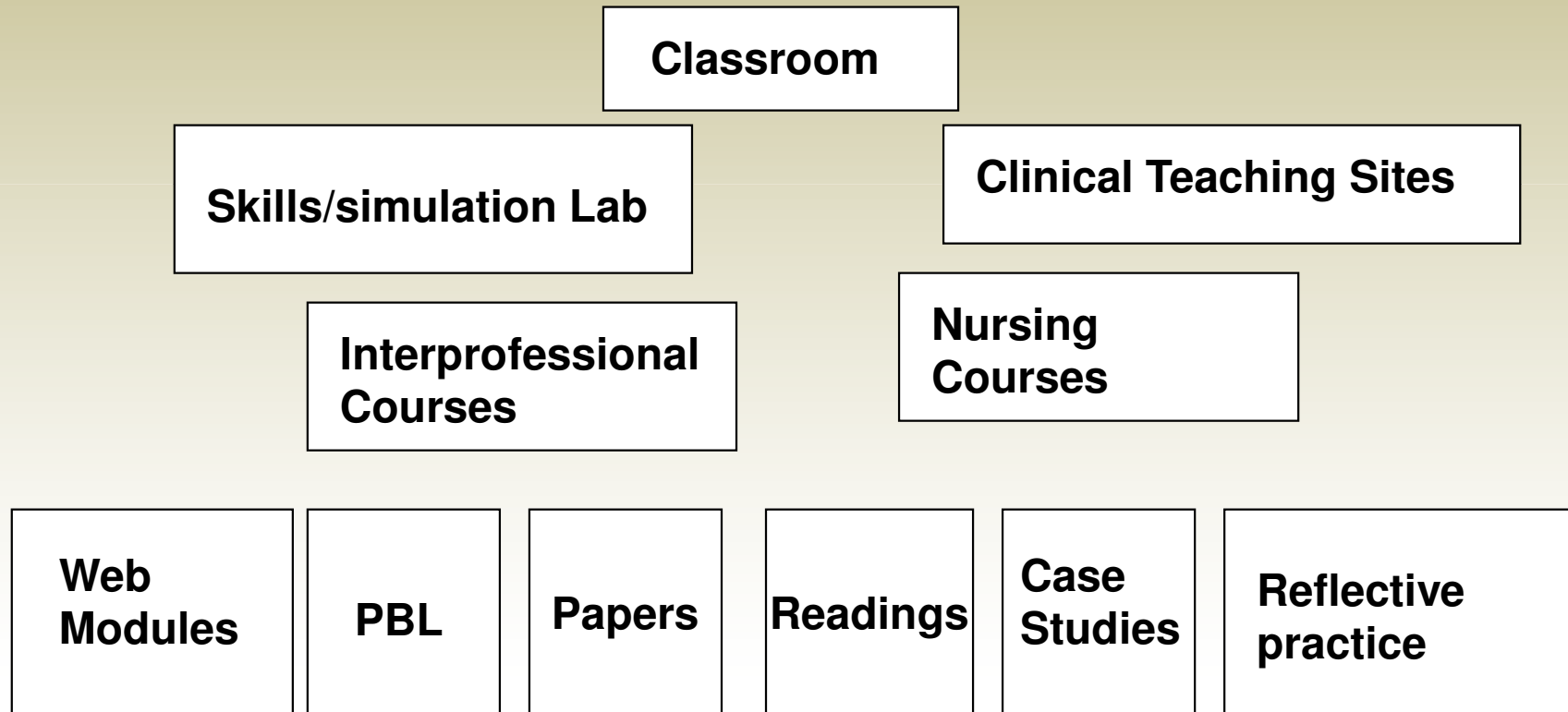
- Increased baccalaureate education
- Greater pool of applicants for graduate education programs
- Drives the profession upward:

Developing clinical experts who integrate objective data with knowledge and understanding of a population group



Changes in current generation of students and nursing education methods


Interactive, student centered pedagogies
Impact of technology on expectations





Population changes: Aging and Chronic Diseases

- By 2025, more than 800 million of the world's population will be over age 65, two-thirds will be in developing countries.
- Chronic diseases associated with aging are increasing with soaring treatment costs in poor and rich nations alike.
- Decline in traditional family care for elders require new models of care for the aged.
- *Need gerontology content in curriculum*



Advanced Practice Nurses and specialty practice

professional role socialization

expand theoretical and experiential basis
for practice, and

prepare nurses to manage care with
attention to ethical, economic, and moral
implications for a specific population.



Advanced practice: Master's degree in nursing builds on basic nursing and licensure with experience in selected specialty area

Skills include

- comprehensive assessment
- diagnose and refer
- manage health and illness problems
- assessment and interventions of complex systems

- critically analyze research findings
- leader health care with cooperation and collaboration skills
- make critical, independent judgments
- *Launch of global standards*



Regulating advanced practice

- Certifying exams for specialty practice insures knowledge
- Objective certification tests assess knowledge, skills and abilities within specialty practice
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) protects the public by certifying nurses based on standards and scope of practice.
- Continuing education part of maintaining certification



Practice Trends: Quality and Safety issues



Institute of Medicine Quality Chasm Series Cites Quality Issues

- To Err Is Human: Building a Safer Health System (2000)
- Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century (2001)
- Health Professions Education: A Bridge to Quality (2003)
- Patient Safety: Achieving a New Standard for Care (2004)
- Identifying and Preventing Medication Errors (2006)

- www.IOM.org



Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN): RWJ Project

- National project led University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
 - Identify content new graduates need to work in quality focused health care
 - Define quality and safety competencies with knowledge, skills, and attitudes
 - Pilot school collaborative
 - Faculty development next phase
- www.QSEN.org with teaching strategies
- [Nursing Outlook](#), May-June 2007



Quality care is built from a framework of:

- Patient centered care
- Teamwork and collaboration
- Evidence base practice
- Quality
- Safety
- Informatics

IOM and Cronenwett, Sherwood et al,
Nursing Outlook, May-June 2007
(special topic issue on quality)

New views of familiar
concepts require curricula
transformation



Interdisciplinary Education to improve the work environment



New education guidelines to insure quality

All health professionals should be educated to deliver *patient-centered care* as members of *interdisciplinary teams*, emphasizing *evidence-based practice, quality improvement and safety, and informatics*.

Committee on Health Professions Education
Institute of Medicine (2003)



IOM competency definition: Work in Interdisciplinary Teams

- Function effectively within inter-professional teams, cooperate, collaborate, communicate, and integrate care in teams to ensure that care is continuous and reliable
- Foster open communication, mutual respect, and shared decision-making to achieve quality patient care
 - Nursing Outlook, 2007



Importance of Interdisciplinary Team Training

- Growing complexity of care: *no one discipline can provide the range of care required for complex patients*
- growing voice from around the world demanding quality improvement in health care
- Poor communication of Nurses and physicians leading cause of health care errors



Health Professions Education

- Evidence supports interdisciplinary experiences for health professionals during their education can change practice outcomes
- Yet....
- There are few curricular changes, virtually no accreditation or certification requirements, nor sustained efforts to integrate on a consistent basis.



Curriculum model: TeamSTEPPS

- Curriculum developed by the Department of Defense, USA, then adopted by AHRQ
- Free from AHRQ
- Interactive Modules for teaching teamwork using standardized communication strategies, integrated experiences, simulation exercises
- User Collaborative just formed
- www.ahrq.gov

Barriers to interdisciplinary education

- Attitudes of faculty
- Lack of defined content
- Faculty development
- Overloaded curricula
- Resource allocation
- Guarding professional turf, protecting role
- Varied education levels among professionals





Shaping the work environment

- Relationships define the work environment and are a chief factor in quality outcomes.
- Nurses frequently accomplish what they need with “work arounds” and indirect messages of what they need.
- Issues of hierarchy influence assertiveness of those lower in the hierarchy
- What are transformations needed in health care professions education to change provider interactions for improved teamwork?



Trends and Innovations

- Doctor of Nursing Practice
 - Doctoral preparation for advanced practice nurses
- Standards for doctoral education
- Accreditation
- Credentialing



Change does not occur in isolation

- Nursing education and health care delivery must collaborate, working in tandem to determine roles, education, and desired clinical outcomes.
- Requires dialogue, mutual trust, and understanding
- Work with policy makers to demonstrate value and contribution of nurses



Nurses transforming health care

- Nursing is a dynamic, interactive, and goal oriented discipline
- Developing voice in policy that drives education and practice
- Goal: Changing health care outcomes





Nurses roles in 21st century global health

How can nurses address Social considerations in global health?

What are economic realities that impact global health, and how can nurses improve access to care and eliminate disparity?

What are ethical issues?

How can nurses be impact policy related to global health issues?