

NURSING SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The Registered Nurse is an individual who holds a current, valid license issued under a national authority or board that authorizes them to practice nursing and use the title registered nurse. Nurses who practice at the basic or entry level of practice have graduated from approved Baccalaureate (4 years) or technical (2.5-3 year) programs with the requirement of 12 years of general education for admission to either program.

Nursing is both an art and science that requires the understanding and application of knowledge and skills specific to the discipline. Nursing is an interactive process and the focus of nursing care includes individuals across the life span, family units, and groups within the health care setting and communities. The functions of nursing are to provide and manage the promotion of health, prevention of illness, care of the physically and mentally ill, the disabled, and dying.

The State of the World's Nursing Report that is published by the World Health Organization (2020) illustrated that strategic investment in nursing education, career advancement, and leadership cultivation is crucial to empower the nursing workforce and enable them to make significant contributions to the realization of the sustainable development goals, improving health outcomes for individuals and communities, and contributes to nations and global health visions (WHO, 2020).

Nursing practice is supported by the values and standards that guide the way in which nursing care is provided. Thus, the purpose of the Nursing Scope of Practice is to provide them with guidance and support on matters of their clinical practice. This resource is also aimed at all clinical, functional roles and settings of registered nurse Technicians and Specialists. In addition, this document will be of interest to legislators, health regulators, students, inter-professional colleagues, and health organizations.