**DQ 1. Discuss a formal role where a nurse is in a position of leadership. Outline the essential responsibilities of that role and the educational preparation required. Explain what leadership traits, styles, or qualities are required to be successful in this role and why.**

Nursing leadership plays a very important role in the lives of nurses and has a very great impact on the healthcare environment. In the case of a formal leadership role, a nurse manager plays an important role in the day-to-day running of the operations in the healthcare system. The responsibilities of a nurse manager include hiring of new staffs, the orientation of new nurses or interns, nurse’s selection and promotion, staff development, monitoring and evaluating staff performance, allocating resources to different departments in the healthcare facility, managing risks and the safety of patients and making sure the finances are well accounted for through good planning (Tahan et al. 2015). Nurse Managers are also supposed to provide guidance, motivation, inspiration, and direction to the nurses and other healthcare providers in the healthcare settings. The nurse managers are also supposed to share a vision for excellence and provide leadership in health promotion and disease prevention campaigns.

Nurse Managers are supposed to have at least a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). Most healthcare centers will also need the nurse to have enrolled in a master's level program of science in Nursing. It is also encouraged that the nurses obtain a Master's in Business Administration (MBA) to enable them to handle management in general with professionalism (Munywewende et al. 2016). A nurse manager should be organized, be a problem solver by providing the best solutions to the problems arising in the healthcare environment. A nursing manager should have integrity that will aid in making the right choices concerning patients' treatment plans. A nurse manager should employ a transformational leadership style that opens for clear communication among the nurses and other healthcare professionals hence making sure the patients in the healthcare are attended to their best.

References

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**DQ2. The influence of leadership can be far-reaching in practice and improving patient outcomes even when not in a formal role. Describe advocacy strategies that you can use as a leader to create positive change in your current workplace. In response to peers, describe a time when you provided leadership and the outcome. Was there anything that you would do differently?**

Advocating strategies include collaborating and communicating with co-workers to share ideas and visions, mentoring others, and acting as role models (Whitney, 2018). In my workplace I have created a list of suggestions where I believe there could be improvements. If there is an issue, I am passionate about on the list, I brainstorm with my coworkers and ask for their opinion, prior to communicating with the management hierarchy. Advocacy is seeing a need and finding a way to address it (Tomajan, 2018).

In the hospital where I work, the amount of time we spend to initiate IV’s or draw labs had a negative effect on the patient and in the hospital unit when trying to meet the needs of other patients as well. To maximize time and the number of patients that we must provide care, I proposed that the hospital purchase an Accuvein finder. The Accuvein finder increases success rates for initiating IV access and drawing labs on the first attempt and saves money when many IV or blood draw supplies are not wasted due to many missed attempts. After presenting the proposal to our nurse manager, we had a demo clinic on Accuvein and the idea was bought by the nursing team. Patients stated they feel more comfortable and less anxious when they know they are a “hard stick.” Today, the nurses in our hospital have enough time to care for other patients because we have spent less time trying to initiate IVs or draw labs. All the nurses now rely on it and feel less anxious when they must attempt a “hard stick.” The patients also are happy that they do not need to go through the trauma of having to be stick many times.

References

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