

Healthcare Environments

Chapter 4

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Health-Care Systems

- Levels of Care
- Primary Health Care
 - Health promotion and prevention
 - Example: annual physical
- Secondary Health Care
 - Detection and early treatment
 - Example: stay in hospital
- Tertiary Health Care
 - Restorative and rehabilitative
 - Example: nursing home



Financing of Health Care

- Providers and payment sources negotiate for amount to be paid for services
- Healthcare paid for by:
 - Employer
 - Private insurance companies
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid
 - Private pay
 - Forgiveness of debt (indigent care)

Risks of Health Care

Most people do not accept medical or nursing mistakes or bad outcomes

Blaming and suing can be costly to system and individuals

Safe practices by nurse is crucial to ensure prevention of nursing mistakes with bad outcomes

A stethoscope is shown in the background, resting on a light-colored surface. The entire image is covered with a semi-transparent blue overlay. The stethoscope's chest piece is in the lower center, and its tubing extends towards the top right.

Health-Care Technology

Nurses must stay current with new technology to provide the best care to patients

Roles and Tasks of the LVN



Can assume positions in wide variety of settings



Tasks are assigned and supervised by RN; LVN gives RN updates and report on client progress

Roles and Tasks of LVN



Clinician

Providing nursing care and tasks



Membership

Professional associations
National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses (NFLPN)
National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service (NAPNES)



Manager

Both managing care and others
Team leader
Unit manager
Charge Nurse



Advocate

Supporter and source of information for client
Being an advocate for patients extends beyond bedside care
Example: vulnerable population



Educator

Teach clients as outline in nursing care plans
Teach patient as identified by the RN, unit, or facility protocols

Roles and Tasks of LVN Continued

Counselor

- Explore feelings about illness and wellness with clients and families

Consultant

- Communicator of client assessments to RN or healthcare provider

Researcher

- Identifying a problem with a care plan or a client that is to be examined and evaluated
- Using evidence-based practice

Collaborator

- Working with other healthcare team members to provide quality care to patients
- Intradisciplinary health care

Health-Care Agencies

Hospitals

- Client needing more serious and intense care

Home Health Care

- Not as intense care needed but continuing care necessary

Hospice

- For client with terminal illness and conditions

Extended Care Facility

- Long-term care or rehabilitation

Physician's Offices

- Clients seeking treatments or follow up

Assisted Living Centers

- For assistance in taking medications or with ADLS

Health Care Agencies



Public health departments

Prevent diseases through education, screenings, and immunizations



Emergent care centers

Treat patients who have immediate health concerns

Do not want to wait for appointment in clinic or emergency room



School health clinics

Treat student injuries and illness



Correctional facilities

Caring for incarcerated individual

Need sharp assessment skills

Health Care Agencies

- TeleHealth

- Can enhance patient care by
- Real-time interactions through telephone conversations, texting, videoconferencing
- Use of special equipment and robots
- Newest trends focus on providing care at patient's home
- Tends to decrease unnecessary visits
- Biggest challenges
 - Reimbursement, research, legal, and technical issues

