**Nurses in The Provision of Health Care**

**Introduction**

In the United States, the prerequire for one to practice as a nurse is to complete the relevant academic qualifications and take the nursing registration examination that makes one qualify as a registered nurse. A Nurse can be registered in any state where they undertake their practice in any of the other states as the registration is offered by the state and federal governments' collaboration. A person graduating at Rasmussen College, Minnesota, can practice nursing in several states within the country.

Nursing is a profession that addresses health and offers hope to the patient. The nurse is involved in patient recovery as they are available whenever a patient needs care. A nurse works tirelessly with dedication and compassion to identify and address the needs of patients. The nurses constitute a very vital cog in health care as they play very important roles in the restoration and promotion of health for the individual and the entire community

**Roles of the Nurse**

Nurses are among the front liners in the medical workforce with the responsibility of delivering high-quality patient care in a variety of settings that include outpatient health centers, hospitals, doctor's offices, and assisted living facilities. They play a critical role in the health care industry within the nation and in the world.

The typical job duties include conducting a physical examination to determine the patient's health status and their issues and administering direct care to those seeking medical care in different facilities. They also have the duty of reviewing and maintaining medical records, developing and implementing care plans, counseling patients and their family members on how to maintain health and prevent diseases, maintenance of safety, and hygiene in their working environment, preparation of rooms and medical equipment, and decontaminating instruments as well as the provision of psychological and emotional support (Evans & Salcido, 2011).

**Scope of Practice for the Nurse**

The registered nurse is a member of the health care professionals is involved in providing different patient care services, including preventive and primary care, patient education about diseases and their prevention, operation of medical equipment, and the administration of medications. According to the Minnesota Board of Nursing (2020), there are no major differences between nurses' different categories. The major scope of their job is to ensure that they are professionally accountable for providing different nursing services as defined by their responsibilities, roles, and functions for which they have been equipped with technical training and authorized to undertake.

**Compare and contrast the scope of practice for the LPN and RN**

Though the LPN and RN allow for a satisfying career in the medical profession considering education, responsibilities, and salary, the two categories of nurses differ. The major difference between the LPN and the RN is in their level and aspects of their training. The LPN programs tend to focus mainly on acquiring practical skills while the RN training focuses on both the practical skills and the ability to make sound decisions through creative thinking. Consequently, the LPN tends to take less time to complete a registered nurse's course takes longer, and thus costing more. The LPN takes 12 months to complete their course while the RN can complete their course work and become licensed in two years. Due to the depth of their training, the LPN works under the RN's supervision, who have more responsibilities in the provision of care than the LPN. The RN can administer medications to patients and being involved in the creation of the patient care plan. Due to their advanced roles in the provision of care, the RN has a higher pay than the LPN.

The LPN and the RN candidates are both required to pass specific examinations to become licensed. The LPN must go past the National Council Licensure Examination for a Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) to begin working while the NCLEX-RN examination and pass to start working as a nurse. The Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) and the Registered Nurse (RN) daily duties often consist of similar work. Both works directly with patients and are responsible for the care and wellbeing of their patients. The two-nursing professions are very marketable as they can work in different healthcare environments, such as nursing homes, hospitals, and medical offices.

**Conclusion**

From the above information, it is clear that nurses should possess the prerequisite technical skills that will allow them to perform their jobs professionally and effectively. They should also possess soft skills that include active listening, integrity, compassion, critical thinking, and attention to detail are vital skills that enable nurses to perform their duties. Most of the technical skills needed by a nurse to succeed can only be acquired through academic learning and professional training.

**References**

Evans, V., & Salcido, K. (2011). *Nursing*. Newbury: Express.

Minnesota Board of Nursing. (2020). Scope of Practice. Retrieved from https://mn.gov/boards/nursing/practice/nursing-practice-topics/scope-of-practice.jsp