

Accelerating Equitable Cancer Care: A Nursing Perspective

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Overview

The purpose of this presentation is to examine opportunities to achieve health equity for patients, families, and communities impacted by cancer, applying a nursing lens to address existing cancer disparities.

Provider, Patient, Public Health Education

Clinical Practice

Clinical Research

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People



“Nurses are trusted with the most precious thing on the earth: the life, health and happiness of other human beings.”

I. Hampton Robb

“Healing requires love. The providers I work with understand this. They use their hands gently, deeply, probing for ease, not faults....They apologize when they get it wrong. They work to make it right. They listen.”

Sossity Chiricuzio in *The Remedy: Queer and Trans Voices on Health and Health Care*

Place

“Nursing is love in action and there is no finer manifestation of it than the care of the poor and disabled in their own homes.”

L. Wald

“...if we don’t meet the cultural needs while they’re in hospital and try to box them into our western way of thinking, as soon as they leave the building they’re going to slide back under the radar with no supports and go, “Well I’m not doing it that way.”

Broom et al., 2019



Partnerships

“Let us never consider ourselves finished nurses....we must be learning all of our lives.”

F. Nightingale



A learning healthcare system ‘generates and applies the best evidence for the collaborative healthcare choices of each patient and provider; drives the process of discovery as a natural outgrowth of patient care; and ensures innovation, quality, safety and value in healthcare.’

Institute of Medicine Roundtable on
Evidence-Based Medicine, 2007

A Social Justice Roadmap for Nurses

Goal: promote equity across education, practice, research and leadership

- Provide culturally sensitive and empowering care at all levels (patient, family, community)
- Address social, environmental and structural conditions which lead to inequities

Reutter & Kushner, 2010



Future of Nursing: A Path to Health Equity

Goal: Nurses address health inequities by eliminating violence, discrimination, and racism across care settings and at every level of the discipline.

Actions: strengthen nursing capacity and expertise; create healthier, more diverse care environments by tackling social justice and system racism issues internal and external to the profession; engage in practice, research and policy agendas and initiatives that promote equity.

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2021



Alston: *Family in Cityscape*, 1966

Strategies to Promote Cancer Equity



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Leading the way in education, research and practice – locally and globally.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

John 8:32