

The Odyssey of Nursing

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Quality is the degree of client satisfaction in service delivery. The measurement of satisfaction is usually pre-defined by means of objective parameters which we call the standard. Often, in the pursuit of achieving large quantitative goals, quality of products and services are getting the chance of being compromised. In a close perspective, education and training is included in this assumption. Much closer perspective will lead us to a definitive view of nursing education.

Quality maintenance is brought about by several factors. Motion capability and time permissiveness are among these. Quality assurance is now a major consideration of goods and services in today's society, and this includes the two large service industries – higher education and health (care delivery) services (Quinn & Hughes, 2007).

The demographic dynamism around the world affects the demand for health care professionals, especially, nurses, being the frontline healthcare providers. These demands do not spare Malaysia. In response to projected demographic shift, Several countries especially the developed ones, felt the need to increase their nursing force and as a consequence, actions are taken to increase in number. In

this regard, the focus on quantity might jeopardize the quality of education delivery due to time and motion relativity.

The result of such task dissipation has positive effects as well. The professionalism of nursing in Malaysia has increased as evidenced by awareness that nursing as a profession has independent and interdependent roles in disposing duties to the society at large. This is partly brought about by more open relations and exchange of nursing educational modalities around the world wherein Malaysia is involved.

Throughout history, we have seen how nursing started formally as a discipline, then vocation, then profession. We have seen that more and more, theories are founded to support the professionalism of nursing. More and more, processes are refined – processes that are unique to the portals and roles of nursing. We are aware that globally, and it has been adapted locally, clients who are used to be called patients are now in the center stage of the healthcare delivery systems. They make decision for themselves. They direct the path in delivering the

healthcare provisions to them.

This is one cornerstone in nursing – we nurses empower the clients by disposing two of our professional roles – nurses being change agents and nurses being client advocates. We are adapting such professional developments of nursing here in Malaysia.

Conclusion

The preservation of standard in professional practice through the maintenance and development of nursing education delivery system has to be taken into consideration at all times. In this time when demands for nurses in Malaysia and in the world are huge, the relentless pursuit in defining and delivering nursing education processes is very important. Founding of essential knowledge seeking activities is to be considered every now and then. We have to go abreast with the theoretical foundry of this industry because that defines the boundaries of professionalism.

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About the Author:

Ms. Ellen S.H. Lee is a Registered Nurse in Malaysia and has been into Nursing Education for more three decades now. She is actively involved in Nursing Professional Organizations.