Disclosures

- No disclosures
Definition of Nursing

“Nursing integrates the art and science of caring and focuses on the protection, promotion, and optimization of health and human functioning; prevention of illness and injury; facilitation of healing; and alleviation of suffering through compassionate presence. Nursing is the diagnosis and treatment of human responses and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations in recognition of the connection of all humanity.” (ANA, 2021, p. 1)
What is advocacy?

Levels of Advocacy

- Individual
- Interpersonal
- Organization and community
- Policy
Advocacy vs Lobbying vs Health Policy

According to the American Nursing Association:

“the nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient.”

Nursing Scopes & Standards 8 – Advocacy for RNs

The registered nurse demonstrates advocacy in all roles and settings.
• Champion the voice of the healthcare consumer
• Recommends appropriate levels of care, timely and appropriate transitions, and allocation of resources to optimize outcomes
• Promotes safe care of healthcare consumers, safe work environments, and sufficient resources
• Demonstrates a willingness to address persistent, pervasive systemic issues
• Informs the political arena about the role of nurses and the vital components necessary for nurses and nursing to provide optimal care delivery
• Empowers all members of the healthcare team to include the healthcare consumer in care decisions, including limitations of treatment and end of life

(ANA, 2021, p. 91-2)
Nursing Scopes & Standards 8 – Advocacy for RNs Cont.

- Embraces diversity, equity, inclusivity, health promotion, and healthcare for individuals of diverse geographic, cultural, ethnic, racial, gender, and spiritual backgrounds across the lifespan
- Develops policies that improve care delivery and access for underserved and vulnerable populations
- Promotes policies, regulations, and legislations at the local, state, national level to improve healthcare access and delivery of healthcare
- Considers societal, political, economic, and cultural factors to address social determinants of health

(ANA, 2021, p. 91-2)

Nursing Scopes & Standards 8 – Advocacy for RNs Cont.

- Role models advocacy behavior
- Addresses the urgent need for a diverse and inclusive workforce as a strategy to improve outcomes related to the social determinants of health and inequities in the healthcare system
- Advances policies, programs, and practices within the healthcare environment that maintain, sustain, and restore the environment and natural world
- Contributes to professional organizations

(ANA, 2021, p. 91-2)
Nursing Scopes & Standards 8 – Advocacy for Graduate Nurse

- Analyzes the impact of geographic, societal, political, economic, and cultural factors on healthcare disparities
- Develops alliances with various groups to promote advocacy goals
- Pursues resources to improve the delivery of care services and outcomes
- Influences leaders, legislators, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and international bodies to address the social determinants of health

(ANA, 2021, p. 91-2)

Nursing Scopes & Standards 8 – Advocacy for APRNs

In addition to the competences of the RN and graduate nurses APRNs must:

- Promote universal application of full practice authority in all settings and roles in meeting healthcare needs of diverse populations
- Advocate for a direct reporting structure to the appropriate APRN leadership position
- Endorse the profession’s Consensus Model for APRN Regulation, Licensure, Accreditation, Certification, & Education

(ANA, 2021, p. 91-2)
Skills Needed For Advocacy

- Problem Solving
- Communication
- Influence
- Collaboration
Skills Needed For Advocacy – Problem Solving

- Identify the problem
- Develop goals & strategies
- Create an action plan
- Set deadlines
- Have patience

Skills Needed For Advocacy – Communication

- Communication methods: written, verbal & electronic
- Develop key facts & associated data
- 60 second elevator speech
  - Introduce yourself
  - Describe your issue
  - Paint them a picture
  - What do you want them to do
Skills Needed For Advocacy – Influence

- Credibility
- Competency
- Trustworthiness

Skills Needed For Advocacy – Collaboration

- Collaborative relationship with stakeholders
- Develop goals, strategies and activities
- Trust, respect and credibility
Impact on Advocacy & Policy

- Problem
- Communication
- Influence
- Collaboration
Impact on Advocacy

Most Important Question

◦ Who do you want making decisions for us?
How can I get involved?

- Join state nursing organizations like KSNA
- Learn how policy is made
- Known who makes the policy
- Write and meet with your legislator
- Volunteer to serve on healthcare advisory group, health policy committee or legislative taskforce
- Register to VOTE, and then VOTE
- KSNA’s Dr. Carla Lee Leadership Academy

Additional resources

- https://healing-politics.org/
Final Thoughts

CALL TO ACTION

Any Questions

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References

- World Health Organizations (2022). Definition of health policy. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/health-topics/health-systems-governance#tab=1