

International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world on 12 May each year to mark the contributions nurses make to society.

The International Council of Nurses has celebrated this day since 1965.

In January 1974, 12 May was chosen to celebrate the day as it is the anniversary of the birth of [Florence Nightingale](#), who is widely considered the founder of modern nursing



**“With loyalty will I endeavor
to aid the physician in his
work and devote myself to
the welfare of those
committed to my care”
-Florence Nightingale**

Roles of Nurses

- Nurses play an important role in the care of a patient. They are often the first line of carers who meet the patients, comforts the patients and family, and educates the patients on the next steps to better health and recovery.
- Nurses are the eyes and ears when the Doctor is not present. Their job is to give optimal care and help guide the patient to recovery as part of the multi-disciplinary health care team.
- In addition, nurses use evidenced-based practice to better educate patients on living healthier lifestyles. Preventative measures are an important to help preserve healthy living.



The difference Nurses make

- Nurses make a difference every day in the health of their patients by educating and listening. As nurses take time to find out about those entrusted to their care, a partnership between caregiver and patient begins to form. One on one relationships are begun with the assessment of the patient and are fostered with each encounter.
- Nurses that care are the most effective in making a difference. It has been said that "People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care," and I feel that is the beginning for a trusting relationship to help make a difference in their patients' lives.



How can Nurses make a difference in the overall health of their patients?

- Nurses can make a great difference in the health of their patients by numerous methods.
- Nurses can educate patients in regards to the illness or disease at hand.
- Nurses give patients resources to improve their lifestyle and disease outcomes.
- Nurses pass medications and teach procedures to patients to help them achieve compliance with their health related needs.
- Nurses can improve a patient's health by teaching them emotional coping skills to handle stressful situations.
- The opportunities are endless for the role that a nurse may play in a patient's health.



Nurses have many roles in the care or rehabilitation process of patients.

- Hospital nurses are often the ones who are with patients 8-12 hour shifts per day.
- Through constant assessment they understand even small changes that can affect a patient's outcome.
- They are also responsible for education of patients, families or care givers to ensure a safe return.
- They are important members of a patient's treatment team and as advocates for every patient they ensure the patient's voices be heard.
- And, as importantly, they are the practitioners that takes extra time and listen to patients, they do not judge and they show care with every patient encounter.

WHEN YOU WAKE UP FOR YOUR



♥ Fabulous RN

THIRD 12HR SHIFT IN A ROW

Overall view of Nurses in practise

- Through the changes that health care reform has proposed more nurses will be in the front of patient care. Advanced practice nurses may see patients in primary care.
- There will be more emphasis on staying healthy and preventing some common diseases, such as diabetes. This will be accomplished with the partnership of nurses, patients, and other healthcare disciplines, such as physicians.
- All nurses are there to ensure safe, effective, and empathetic patient care. They are the ones who place the patients in the centre of care and work with other healthcare professionals to ensure the outcomes of care are the best possible for every patient seen.