Lillian Wald’s Vision for the Future of Nursing

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Objectives

• Describe Lillian Wald's pioneering work in public health nursing
• Describe key messages and recommendations of the Future of Nursing report from the Institute of Medicine (IOM).
• Discuss alignment of Lillian Wald's perspective on the practice of nursing with the recommendations included in the Future of Nursing report from the Institute of Medicine
Objectives cont’d.

• Address specific questions from and comments about presentation

Lillian Wald: Nurse, Social Reformer, Advocate for the Poor
1867-1940
“Lung Block”

Three critical experiments

- Invention of public health nursing
- Nationwide insurance coverage for home-based care
- Creation of national Public Health Nursing Service
Other contributions

Nursing Innovations
• 1st public school nurses
• 1st summer camps for disadvantaged children
• 1st course of study for public health nursing

Social Reforms
• Advocate for improvement in slum housing
• Campaigned for abolition of child labor
• Founding member of NCAAP and Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom

Today: A time of challenge and opportunity

Challenges
• Costs
• Access
• Quality
• Population shifts
• Poverty

Opportunities
• National health reform, The Affordable Care Act
• Institute of Medicine, Future of Nursing report
How do we measure up?

Costs
Access
Quality

Average Annual Health Insurance Premiums and Worker Contributions for Family Coverage, 2005-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Worker Contribution</th>
<th>Employer Contribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>$2,713</td>
<td>$8,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$3,997</td>
<td>$9,773</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The average worker contribution and the average employer contribution may not add to the average total premium due to rounding.

Notes: According to CMS, population is the U.S. Bureau of the Census resident-based population, less armed forces overseas and population of outlying areas, plus the net undercount.


Number of Nonelderly Uninsured Americans, 2004 – 2010

Does health insurance matter?

• Nearly 45,000 people die in the United States each year -- **one every 12 minutes** -- in large part because they lack health insurance and can not get good care.

• "**We're losing more Americans every day because of inaction ... than drunk driving and homicide combined.**"

(Dr. David Himmelstein, 11/17/09; credit to P.C. Erwin for production of slide)

• Overall, adults age 64 and younger who lack health insurance have a **40 percent higher risk of death** than those who have coverage.

Source: Am J Pub Health, Wilper AP et al. 2009 Sep 17. [Epub ahead of print], and as reported by Reuters:

[http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE58G6W520090917](http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSTRE58G6W520090917); credit to P.C. Erwin for production of slide
About 1.2 million Tennesseans do not have access to primary care.
Health Status

Tennessee ranks #39 in America’s Health Rankings

We face significant health challenges when compared to other states:
- #42 in overall health outcomes
- #46 on diabetes
- #45 on infant mortality
- #44 in cardiovascular deaths
- #46 in cancer deaths
- #44 in premature deaths

Demographic shifts

- Average lifespan increasing rapidly
- Significant increases in the diversity of the population
- In some cases, limited English proficiency
Poverty

*It is estimated that the percentage of Americans living in poverty will increase to 15.7% the year, the highest in 50 years.*

- Twice as many live near the official poverty level.
- Increasing overlap between those who used to be firmly in middle class and those that are poor.

*WHO & World Bank, 2002

Poverty creates ill-health because it forces people to live in environments that make them sick, without decent shelter, clean water or adequate sanitation.

*WHO & World Bank, 2002*
Poverty creates hunger which in turn leaves people vulnerable to disease.

WHO & World Bank, 2002

Poverty denies people access to reliable health services and affordable medicines and causes children to miss out on routine vaccinations.

WHO & World Bank, 2002
Poverty creates illiteracy, leaving people poorly informed about health risks and forced into dangerous jobs that harm their health.

Other challenges

- Chronic conditions
- New diseases and problems
The signing of the Affordable Care Act
March 23, 2010

The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health

Recommendations for an action-oriented blueprint for the future of nursing
Nurses: Potential to Effect Wide-Reaching Changes!

Largest component of health care workforce
Spend most time with patients
Understand care process across continuum of care
Evidence links them to high-quality patient care

The Vision

• Quality care accessible to diverse populations
• Promotes wellness and disease prevention
• Reliably improves health outcomes
• Compassionate care across lifespan
• Diverse needs of the changing patient population

The Future System:

• Primary care and prevention are central drivers
• Interprofessional collaboration and care coordination are norm
• Payment rewards value
• Quality care at affordable price
• Redesigning the care delivery system

How?
Four Key Messages

#1) Nurses should be able to practice to full extent of their education and training

- Need to remove scope-of-practice restrictions for APRNs
- Need nurse residency program to better manage transition from school to practice

#2) Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression

- More BSN-trained nurses
- ADN-to-BSN and ADN-to-MSN programs
- Increase student diversity to create workforce prepared to meet demands of increasingly diverse patient population
Four Key Messages

#3) Nurses should be full partners with physicians and others in redesigning U.S. health care

• Foster leadership skills and competencies
• Nurses must see policy as something they shape

Four Key Messages

#4) Effective workforce planning and policy-making require better data collection and an information infrastructure

• Need balance of skills and perspectives among physicians, nurses and others
• Need more specific workforce data collection both within and across professions
Lessons that transcend time

• **Value**
  – Care should be delivered in the least intensive setting possible; a community focus is needed
  – The professional nurse is an economical, practical, and effective care provider and good alternative to physicians in many community-based and other situations
  – Need focus on prevention, education, and self-care
  – *Make investments, not payments*
  – Involve and educate patients and their families

Timeless lessons

• **Patient-centeredness; cultural sensitivity**
  – Care should be holistic and sensitive to patient circumstances

• **Population focus**
  – Individual health depends on the health of the population
  – A population approach provides an enlightened perspective for allocating resources, establishing priorities, and improving outcomes
Timeless lessons

- Evidence-based
- Social policy as health policy
  - Health must be considered within socio-economic context
  - The most influential determinant of health is *not* health care
  - Illness is a manifestation of poverty and class

Our future is rooted in our past...

...the key to the future is in your hands.