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1.1 Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to explore the role of hospital medical ward nurses in providing patient care, with a focus on ensuring comfort and safety within the ward for patients. In this article, it is highlighted the important tasks and responsibilities nurses perform in the health and social care sector, which include monitoring patient conditions, administering medications and injections, and supporting medical treatment plans. Nursing professionals work in a fast-paced environment where patients often present with complicated health conditions, including cardiac problems, diabetes, and other conditions which require attentive attention. In emergency situations, they must provide high-quality care while remaining calm and professional. (Shahmari *et al.*, 2025).

Direct Patient Care

A hospital's medical ward is staffed by nurses who provide direct patient care to ensure both the safety and comfort of patients. Among their responsibilities, nurses monitor vital signs such as temperature, pulse, respiration, and oxygen levels, administer medications safely, and monitor patients for adverse reactions or side effects (Editorial Team, 2024). A nurse is responsible for assisting patients with everyday tasks, such as hand washing, dressing and moving around the ward, as well as managing wound care by assessing injuries, changing dressings, and monitoring healing to prevent infection. Nursing also provides emotional and psychological support by using calm communication, listening actively, and reassuring patients to help them feel supported, build trust, and cope with their illness and treatment (Van Hooft *et al.*, 2025).

Supporting Activities of Daily Living

Another key responsibility is helping patients with activities of daily living, especially when they are unable to do these tasks independently. Nurses may assist patients with eating and drinking, and they encourage good nutrition and hydration to maintain health and support recovery. This can include helping patients choose meals based on their dietary needs—for example, soft food for patients with swallowing difficulties or specialist meals for individuals with diabetes. Helping patients stay clean, comfortable, and well-nourished is an important part of overall patient care (Anantapong, Sampson and Davies, 2023).

Medication Administration and Emotional Support

Medication administration is a major part of the nurse's role. Nurses are responsible for giving medications at the correct time, using safe methods, and documenting all medicines that have been given. They also monitor patients for reactions or changes after receiving medication and report any concerns to the healthcare team (De Baetselier *et al.*, 2021). In addition to this clinical work, nurses offer emotional support throughout the patient's hospital stay. They must be patient, understanding, and available when patients need reassurance. Many people feel scared or lonely in hospital, so nurses play an important role in reducing anxiety and improving the patient's experience (Bradshaw *et al.*, 2022).

Accurate Documentation and Record Keeping

A medical ward must maintain accurate records so that continuity of care can be maintained, and all staff can be kept informed. During nursing care, nurses are responsible for updating patient records, charts, and care plans to reflect changes in the patient's health status, including medication administration, wound care, assessments, and observations (Abd *et al.*, 2021). By having accurate documentation, other staff can provide appropriate care more quickly and assess risk factors. It is important to record any concerns, including details of who was notified and what action was taken, immediately. Keeping families informed about the patient's condition and treatment is also crucial. A comprehensive record keeping system improves the safety of patients, promotes teamwork, and provides legal protection for staff members (Demsash *et al.*, 2023).

1.2 Essential Skills Required for the Nursing Role:

Communication Skills:

Effective communication is essential for nurses because they interact constantly with patients, families and healthcare teams. Nurses must clearly explain medications, wound care, and recovery expectations, as well as reassure families. During handovers, they share vital information, such as changes in vital signs, pain levels, or medication, this is to ensure continuity of care and patient safety (Kourkouta and Papathanasiou, 2014). Clear, calm communication builds trust, improves patient compliance, and help nurses and doctors work together to deliver timely, accurate care (Noviyanti, Ahsan and Sudartya, 2021).

Clinical Decision-Making:

To effectively perform their duties, nurses must make clinical decisions, which require them to assess patients' conditions, interpret clinical information, and make timely, informed decisions. Similarly, a nurse who detects early signs of sepsis - such as fever, rapid heart rate, and low blood pressure - should immediately contact a physician and initiate treatment. This may include administering fluids or oxygen in accordance with the protocol (Kleinpell, 2017). The nurse must also determine whether to initiate emergency treatment if a patient presents symptoms of an allergic reaction. A nurse's capability to make accurate decisions reduces the risk of errors, promotes timely interventions, and improves patient outcomes, demonstrating the critical role they fulfil as a healthcare provider (Nibbelink and Brewer, 2018).

Teamwork and Collaboration:

Collaboration and teamwork are fundamental to patient care in healthcare, where multidisciplinary teams work together to provide high-quality care. As part of the ward rounds, nurses can meet with doctors and physical therapists to discuss each patient's care plan, share updates on recovery progress, and identify any new concerns that may arise (Baek *et al.*, 2023). A nurse working with a physiotherapist to develop a safe mobility plan for a postoperative patient helps reduce the likelihood of complications, such as blood clots, occurring. Nurses also consult with pharmacists to ensure timely medication administration, or work with social workers to arrange post-discharge support, ensuring continuity of care after discharge. The ability to work as a team can reduce the likelihood of errors, enhance patient care, and facilitate a supportive work environment (obrienphysicaltherapy.net, 2025).

1.3 Strategies to Improve Each Skill:

Communication Skills:

It is possible to improve communication skills by combining practical experience, targeted training, and reflective learning. During simulation-based training, nurses gain experience explaining complex medical information, answering patients' questions, and managing challenging conversations in a safe and controlled environment (Farina *et al.*, 2024). Nursing staff who attend active listening workshops can interpret verbal and non-verbal communication more effectively, developing empathy, understanding, and trust between the nurse and the patient (Jahromi *et al.*, 2016). By keeping a journal and seeking peer feedback, nurses can assess their communication skills, identify areas in which they could improve, and develop a consistent, professional manner with patients, families, and colleagues (Baldwin *et al.*, 2024; Zarrin *et al.*, 2023).

Clinical Decision-Making:

Clinical decision-making develops through practical experience, mentorship, and ongoing professional learning. By analysing complex case studies, nurses improve their ability to evaluate evidence, prioritise care, and anticipate complications. Working with experienced nurses or clinical supervisors, provide real-life exposure and guidance, helping build confidence and sound judgment in high-pressure environments (Arkan *et al.*, 2023). Continuing education in patient assessment, risk management, and evidence-based practice keeps nurses up to date and supports structured, safe decision-making (Hidayah *et al.*, 2025).

Teamwork and Collaboration:

To enhance teamwork and collaboration, interdisciplinary training, structured exercises, and reflective feedback are recommended. As a result of participating in workshops with other healthcare professionals, nurses gain a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of their coworkers and ensure greater coordination and efficiency (Kongkar *et al.*, 2025; Weller *et al.*, 2024). During patient care, team-building activities such as problem-solving challenges and scenario-based simulations encourage trust, communication, and adaptability. Nursing professionals can identify areas for improvement by regularly seeking feedback from co-workers and reviewing team interactions, to adjust their approach and contribute more effectively to multidisciplinary teams (Samardzic *et al.*, 2020).

1.4 Conclusion:

By utilizing effective communication, clinical decision-making, and teamwork, nurses on a hospital medical ward contribute greatly to the safe and high-quality delivery of patient care. Developing these skills through practical experience, training, and reflection will allow nurses to better meet patients' needs, coordinate their care, and improve overall outcomes. To ensure patient safety, promote wellbeing, and support a well-functioning healthcare team, these skills must be continuously developed.

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