

Chapter 3

Roles and Settings for CHN

2021

Intended learning outcomes

1. Describe and differentiate among seven different roles of the community health nursing.
2. Explain the importance of each role for influencing people's health.

Nursing Career Profiles in Community Health



Community
Care
Coordinator



Mental Health &
Addictions
School Nurse



Palliative
Nurse
Specialist



Home Health
Nurse



Diabetes Nurse
Educator



Public Health
Nurse



Parish Nurse



Primary Functions of Public Health

1. Assessment:

Is the regular collection, analysis, and sharing of information about health conditions, risks, and resources in community.

- To determine health needs, environmental conditions, political agendas, financial resources.
- Data collection by
 - Interview, survey, records, and research findings.

Primary Functions of Public Health

2. Policy development:

The uses of information gathered during assessment to develop local and state health policies and to direct resources toward those policies.

- Raising the awareness of policy makers about factors such as health regulation, budget decision that affect health of the community

Primary Functions of Public Health

3. Assurance **activities**:

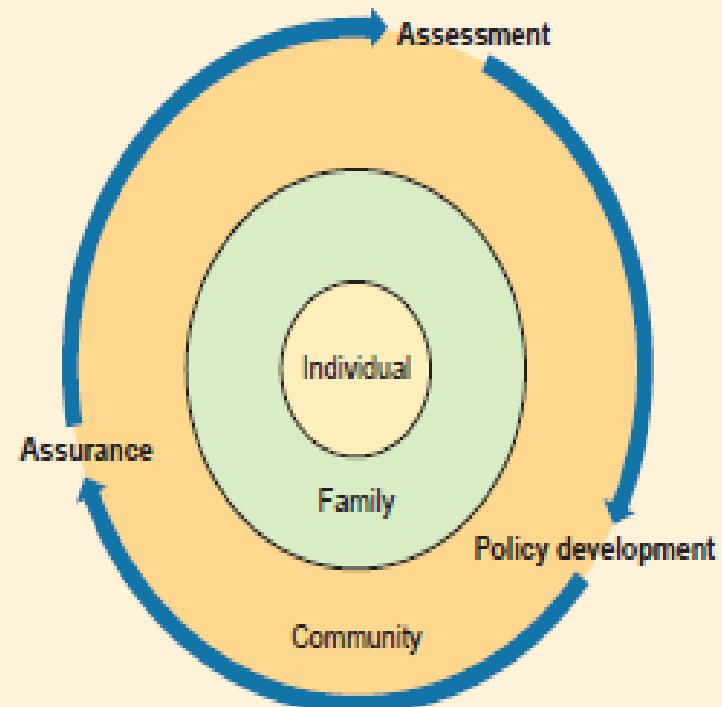
- Activities that make certain that services are provided, such as improve quality of care provided, maintain safe level of communicable disease, prepare disaster plan
- Focuses on the availability of necessary health services throughout the community.

Primary Functions of Public Health

DISPLAY 3.1

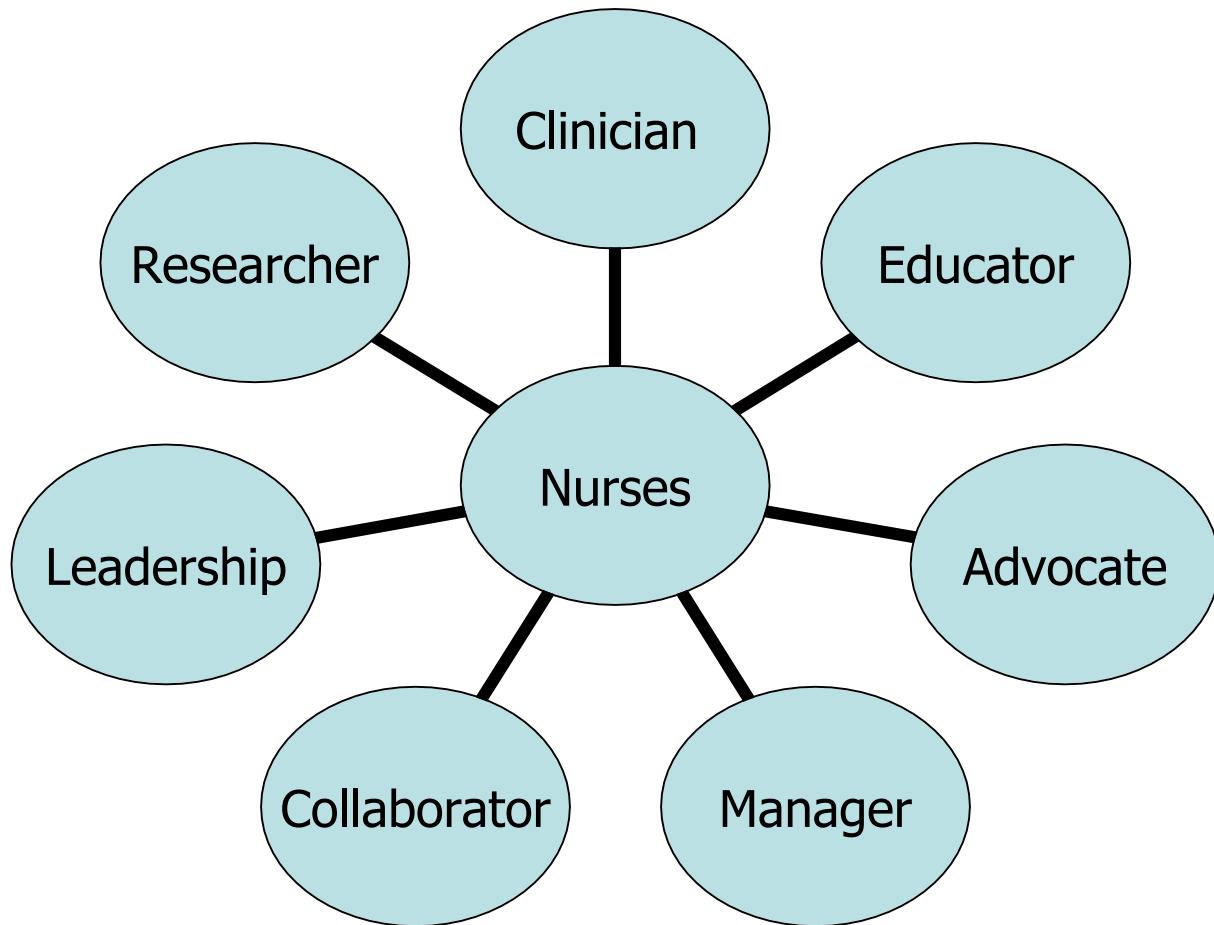
PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING WITHIN THE CORE PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS MODEL

The model includes assessment, policy development, and assurance surrounding the individual, family, and community. *Assessment* is “the systematic collection, assembly, analysis, and dissemination of information about the health of a community.” *Policy development* uses the scientific information gathered during assessment to create comprehensive public health policies. *Assurance* is the “pledge to constituents that services necessary to achieve agreed-upon goals are provided by encouraging actions of others (private or public), requiring action through regulation, or providing service directly.”



(From U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, retrieved October 31, 2006 from http://www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/4f/what_new.htm.)

Roles of community health nurses



Role of community health nurses

1. Clinician role (provider role):

Ensures that the health services are provided not just to individuals and families but also to groups and populations.

- Clinician nurse consider the following aspects:
 - Holism: physical, emotional, social, spiritual, and economic).
 - Focus on health promotion and wellness
 - Expanded skills
 - Observation
 - Listening
 - Communication
 - Counseling
 - Assess need of groups
 - Biostatistics and epidemiology skills

Role of community health nurses

2. Educator Role

Health teacher: one of the major functions of the CHN

Important role because:

- Community clients are NOT usually acutely ill and can absorb and act on health information
- **educator role needs higher public's level of health consciousness**
- Client self-education is facilitated by the nurse. Based on the concept of self-care, clients are encouraged to use appropriate health resources.

Role of community health nurses

3. Advocate Role

Based on clients' rights: Every patient or client has the right to receive just, equal, and humane treatment.

Goals of advocacy:

Help clients gain more independence and self-determination and to make the system more responsive and relevant to the needs of clients.

Advocate Role cont.

Why Advocacy?

Fact: inadequate services, inaccessible, unjust care

- Current health care system offers de-personalised and fragmented services. Many clients who are poor and disadvantaged are frustrated and the nurse becomes an **advocate** for clients pleading their cause and acting on their behalf.

Role of community health nurses

4. Manager Role

Nurse directs and administers care to meet goals by:

1. Assessing client needs
2. Planning and organizing to meet those needs
3. Directing and leading to achieve results
4. Controlling and evaluating the progress to make sure that the results are met

Manager Role

Nurse as Planner

- Sets the goals for the organization
- Determines the means (strategies) to achieve them
- It includes defining goals and objectives, **strategies for achieve goals, coordinate set of activities, then evaluate**

Manager Role

Nurse as Organizer

- Designing a structure for people and tasks to function to reach the desired objectives
- It includes assignments and scheduling

It includes:

1. Deciding **what** tasks to be done
2. **Who** will do them
3. **How** to group the tasks
4. **Who** reports to whom
5. **Where** decisions will be made

Manager Role

Nurse as Leader

- The nurse directs, influences, or persuades others to make change to positively influence people's health and **move them toward the goal.**
- **Coordination:** Bringing people and activities together to function in harmony to achieve desired objectives

Manager Role

Nurse as Controller and Evaluator

- Controller: Monitors the plan and ensures that it stays on course.
 - Monitoring, comparing and adjusting are activities of controlling
 - Comparing performance and outcomes against set goals and standards = Evaluator role.

Manager Role

Management Skills of community health nurse

a. Human skills:

ability to understand, communicate, motivate, delegate and work well with people.

b. Conceptual:

The mental abilities to **analyze** and **interpret** abstract ideas to **understand** and **diagnose** situations **and formulate solution**

c. Technical:

Apply special management-related knowledge and expertise for e.g. computerized management information system

Role of community health nurses

5. Collaborator Role

Means working **jointly** with others on a **common project** to cooperate as **partners**

Who?

Clients
Other nurses and physicians
Teachers and health educators
Social workers
Physical therapists

Nutritionists
Psychologists
Epidemiologists and Biostatisticians
Attorneys
Secretaries
City Planners and legislators

Role of community health nurses

6. Leadership Role

- Community health nurses are becoming increasingly active in the leadership role.
- The leadership role focuses on **effecting change** the nurse becomes an agent of change.
- **As leaders, nurses seek to initiate change that positively affects people' health**

Role of community health nurses

7. Researcher Role

- Systematic investigation, collection, and analysis of data for solving problems and improving community health practice
- Process of research
 1. Identify an area of interest
 2. Specify the research question or statement
 3. Review the literature
 4. Identify a conceptual framework
 5. Select a research design
 6. Collect and analyze data
 7. Interpret the results
 8. Communicate the findings

الزهرة لا تفكر بمنافسة الزهرة المجاورة لها،
هي فقط تزهر.

A flower does not think of competing to the flower next to it. *It just blooms.*

Settings for CHN Practice

1. Homes
2. Ambulatory service setting
3. Community health centers
4. Schools
5. Occupational health settings (business and industry)
6. Residential institutions: Older age residences
7. **Faith communities** Parishes or charitable mosques related organizations
8. Community at large

Homes

- The most frequently used setting for community health nursing practice was the home.
- In the home, all of the community health nursing roles, to varying degrees, are performed.
- Clients who are discharged from acute care institutions, such as hospitals or mental health facilities, are regularly **referred** to community health nurses for continued care and follow-up.

Schools

- Community health nurses' roles in school settings are changing.
- School nurses, whose primary role initially was that of clinician, are widening their practice to include more health education, inter-professional collaboration, and client advocacy.



Occupational Health Settings

- Community health nurses in occupational health settings practice a variety of roles. The clinician role was primary for many years, as nurses continued to care for sick or injured employees at work.



Residential Institutions

- Any facility where clients reside can be a setting in which community health nursing is practiced. Residential institutions can include a halfway house in which clients live temporarily.
- while recovering from drug addiction or an inpatient hospice program in which terminally ill clients live.

Community at Large

- Community health nursing is a specialty of
- nursing that is defined by the nature of its practice, not its location, and it can be practiced anywhere (Williams, 2000).