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The clinical role of the school nurse—a vital link in health care

Pamela Treister

New York Institute of Technology, USA

The National Association of School Nurses defines school nursing as a specialized practice of professional nursing that advances the well-being, academic success, and life-long achievements of students. To that end, school nurses facilitate positive student responses to normal development; promote health and safety. The school nurse, through the nursing process, assesses plans, intervenes, and evaluates clinical situations as well as critically thinks to prevent life-threatening situations. This nurse is often the medical authority on the school premises and provides a vital link between parent, child, teachers, and the primary medical provider. The role of the school nurse encompasses taking care of sick or injured people on school grounds – regardless of age of the potential patient. The goal of the school nurse is to keep children in school in a healthy and safe environment. School nurses save lives and are vital members of the clinical nursing community.

Biography

Pamela Treister has completed her BSN, MS and CNS at Hunter College in New York, and Doctoral studies – DNP in Leadership at Quinnipiac University in Connecticut. She has been a nurse for more than 30 years, having worked in medical/surgical, trauma and neurosurgical intensive care units. She is a Textbook Reviewer and has volunteered to be a peer reviewer for several journals. She is certified in Medical-Surgical Nursing and currently works as a Clinical Assistant Professor. She has published, presented and spoken at more than a dozen conferences, nationally and internationally, and is considered to be a clinical expert in her field.

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