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How to promote the leadership role of nursing profession in the client-centered life care elder law practice

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Aim of this study is to identify new opportunities to promote the value-driven visibility of nursing profession in the life care elder law context and to recognize nursing critical leadership skills in collaborating with other patient care related professionals; share long term care case studies and data analysis demonstrating successful leadership and collaborative strategies to achieve optimal patient satisfaction while addressing complexity, ambiguity and uncertainty within the current legal, regulatory and health care system, attributable to nursing profession's essential leadership role and; "Real world" group discussion to develop individual leadership action plans incorporating concrete steps and effective tools to maximize nursing profession's career goals for daily operations, networking, personal growth and professional recognition. Accelerating demographic changes brought on by the aging of the "Baby Boom" generation have created new leading collaborative opportunities for innovative nursing profession. Given the conservative nature of the legal, financial and medical professions, the time is ripe for nurses to take the lead in demonstrating innovative solutions to older Americans' demands for continued autonomy and self-actualization as the reality of diminished physical and mental vigor can no longer be denied. Unlike the stereotypes ascribed to financial, legal and medical professionals, nurses occupy a unique position of trust with the older population. Since we are dealing with client's life support system, it is us orchestrating the services necessary for continued independence. The historic notions of patient care are no longer sufficient, given the extreme cost of that care. Integrating medical, financial and elder law solutions into traditional notions of geriatric care, in collaboration with legal and financial professionals is essential. Nurses are well-suited by inclination and temperament to assume a leadership role in this transformation, provided we have the proper plans, steps and tools. We can be not only advocates with a strong clinical background, excellent communicators with a myriad of resources, but also, more importantly, the essential and critical leaders to optimize elder clients' autonomy, independence and self-actualization.