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Invest in Nursing: Empowering the Frontline of Healthcare

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Nurses are known as the backbone of any health care system. Nurses deliver high-quality nursing care to patients and are integral to the provision of safe, compassionate, quality care in hospitals, primary health care, and the community, and during emergencies. The healthcare industry is relatively sophisticated these days. Given chronic diseases, the new problems of infectious diseases, and the ever-changing nature of technology, it is essential that nursing investment be focused on clinical practice, research, nursing education, decision making, and nursing leadership [1].

Moreover, the pandemic has demonstrated the value of a strong nursing workforce to bolster resilient health systems. Nurse investment is not a cost; it is an investment for decades in improved health care, healthy communities, and sustainable health care systems. There should be collaboration among governments, health care providers, academic institutions, and nursing organizations to support, value, and strengthen the environment in which nurses practice. To support nurses is to give them huge opportunities for professional learning outside their nursing scope and great opportunities for professional development. In addition, an integral part of the nurse's role is as a leader. Staff empowerment, quality improvement, and patient safety are increasingly becoming critical, with low levels of staff development invested, resulting in slower staff growth. This highlights the importance of developing strategic leadership competencies for nursing management [2].

Nurses are fundamental members of the healthcare system at the forefront of patient care, making critical decisions that influence patient outcomes and the overall quality of healthcare. Empowering nurses to make informed decisions leads to better patient outcomes, greater collaboration among health care professionals, and improved health care system performance [3].

A recent study has demonstrated the importance of nursing education in building the competence and confidence required to prepare future healthcare professionals. Respect and self-determination, skills training to enhance competence, and mentorship and facilitation of collaborative learning environments are significant factors in improving academic achievement in the nursing profession. Consequently, there is an improvement in self-efficacy, job satisfaction, and academic success that positively affects patient care [4].

Eventually, nurses are empowered in nursing research to promote a culture of evidence-based practice, innovation, and ongoing improvement. The research-active nurse is better prepared to identify clinical issues, to develop evidence from the context of the issue, and to make interventions to enhance patient safety and improve the quality of health care. Furthermore, their participation in research also supports decisive critical thinking, decision-making in practice, professional independence, and influence on health policies and practice. Ultimately, nurse investment as a researcher leads to robust and noticeable patient outcomes, more efficient health systems, and the evolution of the nursing profession [5].

As we move forward into the future of healthcare, there is one obvious thing to invest in: nursing, which is to invest in healthcare and therefore everyone's health. A strong healthcare system is built on the strength of its frontline workers, and nurses are the most important asset in a healthcare system. Nurses should be given leadership, policy-making, research, and



decision-making authority. Thus, the outcome of the healthcare system will be better, and this can translate to optimal and significant patient outcomes.

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