

*Test Bank for Policy and Politics for
Nurses 4th Edition by Nickitas,
Middaugh, Feeg*

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CHAPTER 1

1. Examine the need of having a diverse healthcare workforce.

<Answer: A diverse healthcare workforce increases not only minority participation in the health professions, but also the overall cultural competency of all patients. A report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2006) indicates that improved patient satisfaction, improved patient–nurse communication, and improved access to care for racial and ethnic minority patients directly results from an increase in diversity among health professionals. This is particularly beneficial when healthcare professionals are knowledgeable about their backgrounds.>

<Subject: Nursing Strong, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom's: Analyzing>

2. With regard to the makeup of the nursing workforce, what must the nursing profession do in order to advance the composition of the future workforce?

<Answer: To successfully advance health care, the nursing profession must make significant strides to change the composition of the future workforce. This will require greater efforts toward the successful recruitment of underrepresented minority groups into nursing. A goal is to better ensure that future nurses mirror the patient populations for which they will be providing care.>

<Subject: Nursing Strong, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom's: Analyzing>

3. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, what plagued New York City school children?

<Answer: Trachoma, a contagious eye infection, plagued the New York City schoolchildren.>

<Subject: Advocacy and Public Health Nursing, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Easy>

<Bloom's: Remembering>

4. What were the conditions and issues that originally led nurses into the advocacy arena?

<Answer: Nurses sought legislation that would give definition to nursing practice long before women had the right to vote. Nurses strongly advocated and educated others on the importance of protecting the public, by demanding that nurses be professionally trained, and were safe to practice. During this time period nurses faced the difficult task of convincing male lawmakers to support nursing legislation. While nurses struggled for statewide nursing registration, they had to “fight battles against long hours of work and opposition to nursing education” (Lewenson, 1993, p. 171). In order to push legislation forward for the safety of the public, some nurses began to support the work of the suffragist movement, and, therefore, aligned themselves with the larger women’s movement of the early 1900s. Individual nursing leaders, such as the public health pioneer Lillian Wald and nursing suffragist Lavinia Dock, advocated for healthcare reforms in the community and in the legislative arena. These professional organizations formed during this period in order to protect the public from uneducated and untrained nurses, which in turn protected the public, and aided in development of standards for nursing education and practice.>

<Subject: Advocacy and Public Health Nursing, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom’s: Understanding>

5. In what ways are nurses positioned to be political advocates?

<Answer: Nurses have a unique position as political advocates, which can lead to system changes that improve patient care, influence the implementation of health legislation, and conduct ongoing scans of the political environmental. While functioning as leaders, administrators, educators, and researchers, nurses repeatedly show the ability to manage complex processes, as well as related data analytics around disparities, health outcomes, quality, and costs. In this position, nurses advocate by bringing problems to the attention of the government, and seek decisions and clarifications, in the form of programs, laws, regulations, the nation’s health.>

<Subject: History and Political Advocacy, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom’s: Analyzing>

6. As an interprofessional healthcare team, all professionals must “draw upon their moral responsibility to respond to human suffering and become acknowledged participants in the nation’s efforts to correct health disparity” (Harrison & Falco, 2005, p. 261). As a healthcare professional, give your analysis of this quote and interpret its meaning with regard to the current state of the American healthcare system.

<Answer: The answer, by nature, is subjective. The following points should be found within the

meaning of the response.

In order to achieve health equality for all, there must be a collaboration of many disciplines and sectors, both inside and outside of nursing. Nurses must work to collaborate with other healthcare professionals in order to address health disparities and health equity, within the context of the social determinants of health. One of the greatest challenges in healthcare is reducing spending. Interpreting healthcare reform from a nursing perspective enables nurses to determine how to best distribute resources to individuals, families, and populations. Payment and delivery reforms are extremely relevant to nurses, such as those working in primary care and ambulatory settings. Nurses are in a position to advocate for better health, better health care, and lower costs through improvement.>

<Subject: Nursing Strong, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Hard>

<Bloom's: Analyzing>

7. What does it mean to be engaged in advocacy as a nurse?

<Answer: Nurses who are engaged in advocacy are informed about policy and ways in which they can influence nursing, healthcare, and public policy. The nurse has the ability to influence these at the local, regional, national and global levels. This engagement requires the nurse to be knowledgeable in sound evidence and to have a political strategy that allows for increased understanding of the potential impact of linking the nursing workforce with the globalization of health care, the implementation of health legislation, and the ongoing disparities in health care and health outcomes. The demands for increased access to health care, and better outcomes will require nursing to widen its influence in policy areas that address the health and healthcare needs of underserved and minority populations.>

<Subject: Nurses as Advocates, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom's: Understanding>

8. Why is it important to understand the role nurses and nursing have in the history of the American healthcare system?

<Answer: The answer is subjective but should reflect the theme of the chapter.>

<Subject: Nurses as Advocates, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom's: Analyzing>

9. Lillian Wald said "among the many opportunities for civic and altruistic work pressing on all sides nurses having superior advantages in their practical training should not rest content with being only nurses, but should use their talents wherever possible in reform and civic movements." Taking into consideration the time, what were the issues that led to a statement such as this?

<Answer: Wald (1915) advocated bringing nurses to local schools in order to decrease truancy rates. This was due to an increasing number of sick children who are sent home due to illness, many were not able to access treatment. Wald's advocacy included caring for those in rural settings, and later the establishment of the American Red Cross Rural Nursing Service (later known as the Town & Country). As Keeling and Lewenson wrote (2013), this organization "served as the point of contact for families in rural communities where remoteness, isolation, and fewer physicians and nurses created barriers to care."

Advocacy took many forms during this time, and often ranged from participating in national committees to ensuring that care was provided at local levels. The needs of the community framed the work of the public health.>

<Subject: Advocacy and Public Health Nursing, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom's: Analyzing>

10. From a nursing perspective, what is the benefit of being able to interpret healthcare reform?

<Answer: The benefit of being able to interpret healthcare reform is that nurses can then determine the best way to distribute resources to those in need. The law stimulates payment and delivery reforms, which are highly relevant to nurses, particularly those working in primary care and ambulatory settings.

Nurses have a large impact on the way that resources are distributed and can create opportunities for patients to become healthier, have greater access to health care, and pay less for medical needs. improvement.>

<Subject: Nursing Strong, Chapter 1>

<Complexity: Medium>

<Bloom's: Understanding>