The Role of Nurses in Human Rights

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Association of Nurses In AIDS Care
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**Mission:** ANAC fosters the professional development of nurses and others involved in the delivery of health care for persons at risk for, living with, and/or affected by HIV and its comorbidities. ANAC promotes the health, welfare, and rights of people living with HIV around the world.
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

Core Ideology: Public policy must be grounded in patient advocacy, human rights, compassion, and social justice. We promote the inclusion of the nursing perspective in promoting the health, welfare, and rights of all individuals affected by HIV and its comorbidities.

Two Fundamental Beliefs:
• Nurses can have an influential and powerful voice as public policy advocates.
• Nurses have expertise related to health care and human rights.
Nurses and Advocacy

Advocacy: Seeing a need and finding a way to address it
Advocate: One that pleads, defends, or supports a cause or interest of another

Nurses: Provide 24-hour continuity of care and close surveillance
Are advocates for patients
Lead health promotion
Educate patients and the public on the prevention of illness and injury
Nursing is Founded in Public Health Policy & Social Justice Advocacy

Health and Hospital Reform
Health and Hunger Reform in India
Women’s rights and workforce equality
Sex workers rights
Big Data
ANA Code of Ethics
2015 Year of Ethics

Revised Code released Jan 2015
Establishes ethical standards for the profession
Serves as a guide for nurses to use in ethical decision making

1. Respect for the inherent dignity, worth and uniqueness of every patient, unrestricted by social and economic status, personal attributes, or the nature of the health problem.

2. Commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group or community.
ANA Code of Ethics

8. Collaborates with other health professionals and the public in promoting community, national, and international efforts to meet health needs.

9. The profession of Nursing as represented by associations is responsible for articulating nursing values, maintaining integrity of the profession and for shaping social policy.
Global Human Rights Issues 2019

- HIV/AIDS – 35 million worldwide
  - Poverty
  - Racism
  - Gender Equality
  - Rights of Key Populations (MSM, PWID, Incarcerated, SW)
- TB - 1.8 million deaths/year: MDRTB (incarcerated)
- Growing VH epidemics – 320 million worldwide
- Maternal & reproductive health
- Refuge & migrant health & rights – 258 million worldwide
- Climate change
• Reduce global maternal mortality
• End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age
• End the epidemics of AIDS, TB, malaria. Combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
• Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being
• Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services

• Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and medicines and vaccines for all
End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women

Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, ownership and inheritance

Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights

Ensure women’s full participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life
GOAL 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.1 Strengthen resilience and capacity to climate-related disasters in all countries
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies and strategies
13.3 Improve education & capacity on climate change mitigation (ex-early warning)
13.A Implement and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund.
13.B Raise capacity for effective climate change planning and management in least developed countries and small island nations including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities.
Global Health Policy Issues 2019

Impact of Climate Change on Human Health

- Injuries, fatalities
- Asthma, cardiovascular disease
- Malaria, dengue, encephalitis, hantavirus, Rift Valley fever
- Vector-borne Diseases
- Respiratory allergies, poison ivy
- Cholera, cryptosporidiosis, campylobacter, leptospirosis
- Malnutrition, diarrhea, harmful algal blooms
- Water and Food Supply
- Mental Health
- Environmental Refugees
- Forced migration, civil conflict
- Heat stress, cardiovascular failure
- Heat
- Severe Weather
- Air Pollution
- Rising Temperatures
- RISING SEA LEVELS
- Weather Extremes

Adapted from J. Patz
Global Health Policy Issues 2019
Global Health Policy Issues 2019
Support a strong global nursing workforce

90-90-90*
Ambitious targets require greater investments in nursing

JULY 2016

ANAC
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

Join us and sign the call to action now!
nursesinaidscare.org/signthecall

* 90-90-90 refers to UNAIDS HIV treatment goals to end the AIDS epidemic globally, released in 2014: By 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV (PLWH) will know their HIV status; 90% of all people with diagnosed HIV will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy (ART); and 90% of all people on ART will have viral suppression.

Demand greater investments in NURSING

Sign the call to action
nursesinaidscare.org/signthecall

Access
Improving access to healthcare by removing political, legal and economic barriers to nurse-led care

Equity
Building sustainable solutions by requiring equitable representation of nurses on policy, guidelines and other decision making bodies

Rights
Demanding an end to HIV stigma, discrimination and unjust HIV criminalization

Nurses:
- Ensure patients’ rights to equitable, accessible healthcare
- Represent 80% of the global healthcare workforce
- Provide care for underserved and vulnerable populations
- Provide evidence-based person-centered HIV care
- Provide care along the full HIV care continuum
- Are central to achievement of ambitious HIV prevention, care and treatment targets

We call for:
- Policy changes to support nurse-led care
- Greater investments in nursing
- Support for interprofessional collaboration
- Equity in decision making
Nurses:

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We recognize that

- Nurse-led care is effective and evidence based.
- Health policies and legislation have not kept pace with the vital role of nurses.
- Ambitious targets require investments in the nursing workforce, nursing education and research.
- Nurses are under represented on decision making bodies, global HIV task forces, policy and guidelines committees.

Therefore we call for

- Advancing nurse-led care through policies and legislation that support nurses’ true role in HIV prevention, care and treatment.
- Resources, budget allocation and staffing structures that reflect the central role of nursing to HIV care and achievement of 90-90-90.
- Health systems that ensure strong interprofessional collaboration.
- Equitable representation of nurses on healthcare and HIV decision making bodies.
Global Gag Rule (Mexico City policy)
Nurses Roles in Human Rights & Advocacy: Change Agents

- Educate yourself
- Join a nursing organization
- Participate in coalitions
- Represent the nursing perspective
- Advocate for your patients
- Partner with PLWHA (or other patient groups)
- VOTE
Nurses Roles in Human Rights & Advocacy: Actions

• Community and Family Discussions
• School & Church Activities
• Letters to Editors
• Expert Testimony
• Legislative Visits
• Court Actions
• Local and National Boards
• Social Media
Nursing Now

• 3 year global campaign
• In collaboration with International Council of Nurses and World Health Organization
• Programme of the Burdett Trust for Nursing
• Based on APPG report *Triple Impact*
Nursing Now: Triple Impact

Triple Impact

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health

Better health
Greater gender equality
Stronger economies

Intimate hands-on care
The unique contribution of nurses
Person-centred and humanitarian values

Professional knowledge

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health
Campaign vision

To improve health globally by raising the profile and status of nurses worldwide.

Influencing policymakers and supporting nurses to lead, learn and build a global movement.
Nursing Now 5 Tactics

• Ensure that nurses and midwives have a more prominent voice in health policy-making
• Encourage greater investment in the nursing workforce
• Recruit more nurses into leadership positions
• Conduct research that helps determine where nurses can have the greatest impact
• Sharing of best nursing practices