



Jennie Whitford

Carers Project Manager

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Background

- The Queen's Nursing Institute is a registered charity dedicated to improving the nursing care of people in their own homes.
- We trained district nurses until the 1960s, in a model that was copied across the world. This model of care was instrumental in developing a comprehensive, highly-skilled service in the UK that meets the needs of millions of people every year.



Today we support community nurses by



Report on District Nurse Education in the United Kingdom 2013-14

Key Points

- 351 District Nurses are due to qualify in the summer of 2014 in comparison to 254 in 2013 - an increase of 38% in England, Wales and Northern Ireland
- 427 new entrants to the District Nurse programme in 2013/14 in the UK, of which 30% are registered on the part-time route
- 25% increase in the number of universities running NMC approved Specialist Practice -District Nurse programmes in England in comparison to 2012/13.
- 31% increase in the number of programmes running with 11 or more students in each cohort in comparison to 2012/13.
- The QNI and QNI Scotland will be developing standards for District Nursing education and practice in 2014/15.

Introduction

The education of District Nurses is essential to ensure that community nursing team leaders develop the specialist skills and knowledge to enable them to lead and manage teams of nurses and nursing assistants to deliver care in the community effectively and efficiently.

The majority of registered nurses who lead District Nursing teams complete the Specialist Practitioner - District Nurse with Integrated V100 Nurse Prescribing programme, an approved specialist qualification that is recorded against the nurse's registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

The purpose of this specialist community nursing programme is to support the nurse to develop the skills and knowledge required to be a team leader and manager, capable of working autonomously in leading a team caring for people in the community with increasingly unpredictable, dynamic and complex nursing needs.

This review is the second of its kind and outlines the current context for District Nurse education in the UK in 2014. It presents trends and changes that have emerged since the last review in 2013 (QNI 2013).

- Developing Queen's Nurses who are committed to high standards of care in the community, helping them to make improvements in practice and to act as leaders and role models to others
- Influencing policies in England, Wales and Northern Ireland that affect healthcare in the home and the quality of community nursing services
- Funding projects led by community nurses that improve care for their patients

Mission Statement

- We believe in the best possible nursing care for patients at home and in the community; we work with nurses and decision makers to make sure that good quality nursing is available at home for everyone when they need it.

Carers Project

- We work with Community Nurses – not carers
- We have developed the on-line resource for District Nurses
- We are currently developing the on-line resource for General Practice and School Nurses
- We are identifying and supporting Nurse Champions for Carers



Why E-Learning?

- Time away from practice limited
- Continuing Professional Development
- Easy to access – can dip in and out

Why QNI Carers Resource?

- Written in conjunction with Nurses
- Professionally reviewed by Nurses and the content independently verified
- Specific pathways developed recognising the specialism of community nurses
- Fully interactive
- Comprehensive E-Workbook
- Comprehensive Resource Directory to accompany the modules
- Developing an App for full mobile use

Next Steps

Want to know more, get involved or register as a Nurse Champion?

- Visit and use the Resource
- http://www.qni.org.uk/for_nurses/supporting_carers
- Register to receive the E-Newsletter
- http://www.qni.org.uk/for_nurses/supporting_carers/carers_project_news