

Geriatrics Training and the Future Effect on the Nursing Workforce

Client: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration

Project Overview

Insight assisted the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Practice (NACNEP) in analyzing the current state of geriatric health care and the impact of the aging population on the nurse workforce. NACNEP advises Congress and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on policy issues related to the Title VIII programs administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Bureau of Health Professions' (BHPr) Division of Nursing, including nurse workforce supply, education, and practice improvement.



“Geriatrics Training and the Future Effect on the Nursing Workforce,” NACNEP’s Fourth Report, addressed the current condition of the nursing workforce and the future of nursing care in the United States and discussed the implications of the growing geriatric population and their corresponding care needs. Through expert testimony and direct research, this report explored the current state of the geriatric population in the United States; improvements needed in geriatric nurse education and practice; development of evidence-based models of practice in the care of the elderly; best practices in geriatric nursing; best practices in geriatric nurse education; and implications of the nursing workforce shortage on geriatric nurse education and practice.

The report outlined a series of recommendations and justifications for direction and funding of HRSA’s Title VIII Nursing programs based on NACNEP’s findings. These recommendations included building nurse education programs that increase the geriatric capabilities of nurses; supporting clinical and programmatic approaches that provide geriatric care experiences; ensuring the provision of culturally competent geriatric nursing care; supporting the development of interdisciplinary collaborative care partnerships; and using the identification and evaluation of clinical outcomes as a basis for determining best practice models of geriatric nursing care. This report was provided to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Congress.

Core Activities

Literature Reviews and Environmental Scans; Policy Analysis and Assessment; Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination of Advisory Committees and Technical Expert Panels; Report Development and Presentation

Products

The final report is entitled “The Critical Need for Geriatric Nursing Care” (November 2004) and is available by request from NACNEP at NACNEP@hrsa.gov.