



HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS: NURSING IN CONTEXT



The day-to-day work of individual nurses is situated within a complex healthcare system that operates at multiple levels that influence their workplace environment and the care they provide: from national regulations over state-level legislations to institutions relevant to the locality and down to the institution/unit.

National

- National health policy
- National standard setting institutions
- Medicare/Medicaid policy

Institution/ unit

- Nursing care delivery systems
- Healthcare quality measures
- Leadership models
- Culture of care

Leadership models

...shape collaboration in the healthcare team. Examples include autocratic leadership, authentic, and many others.

Nursing care delivery systems

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Region/state

- Insurance providers/ reimbursement
- State-specific Medicaid policy
- Nurse practice acts/ licensing
- State-level health policy/ public health initiatives

Nurse practice acts

...are state-level legislatures defining a nurse's scope and standard of practice.

Locality

- Levels of care
- Healthcare institutions/ facilities

Levels of care

...are a categorization of the intensity of care a patient needs, typically 1–4.

