

**Opinion Article** Volume 1; Issue 2

## A Serious Shortfall of Nurses Looms around Malaysia in Near **Future**

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Every nurse is an angel with a key for healthy community! All in caring for patients is the part of nursing soul"Well, as every one of us knows angels are not plenty, however, the number of caregivers or nurses have been going through a steady decline across Malaysia. I strongly believe that nurses are the virtual angels of our society, irrespective of their specialization or disciplines. Having said that, the number of nursing students have been diminishing since last few years in most of the nursing colleges and universities nationwide. Honestly speaking, lack of motivation n and more importantly, migration to other countries for betterment of the future are the major contributing factors. With the latest reference of World Health Organization (WHO), Malaysia would require 130,000 nurses at least, by 2020, to make all the areas covered. Adding on to it, the ratio of nurses assisting the doctors is also below par compared to the normalcy, as depicted by WHO.

Therefore, in this regard, I would like to recommend some of the following attributes that should be taken care of:

- Nurses or caregivers should be trained holistically and exposed more towards community so as to read the mental setup of the people.
- Potential students who will join in the nursing programmes, at any level, should be counselled by professional counselors to make them realistic about their job and futuristic attributes.

- iii. A robust strategy must be adhered to the retention policy is concerned, with subsequent impetus to the employee empowerment.
- iv. Specializations such as, midwifery and critical care nursing should be subjected to greater heights as these are the most crucial facets of modern nursing, not only in Malaysia, globally as well.
- Another pivotal aspect of escalating nursing scenario in Malaysia is to routinely exchange the ideas and advanced thinking among the university and college levels by joint collaboration.
- vi. Furthermore, Malaysian nursing board should be proactive in order to elevate nursing strategies, protocol as well as professional skills, by developing the constant exchange of ideas with neighboring nation like- Indonesia, Myanmar, India and Pakistan. In fact, most of the foreign nurses are hired from these mentioned countries across Malaysia, in universities, colleges and hospitals respectively.
- Last but not the least, nursing students, irrespective of their level, should be regularly manifested to scientific sharing, across the nation, if possible to abroad as well.

Nurses remain mostly under the shadow of clinicians, regarding the professional hierarchy is concerned, however, beyond the physical support and care they render, a professional nurse could boost up a patient and their family members emotionally, that sometimes, a doctor won't be able to do in a way that a caregiver could.In reality, as far as I am concerned, that is the best possible reward for a nurse who would be then proud about her and at the same time, for the noble profession.To say the least, although the current situation

is far from promising as far as the Malaysian nursing is concerned, however, things could be definitely resurrected. Florence Nightingales are still there who would show us the light again with their lamps aglow.