Reflection Paper

Sample Solution

Grand Canyon University: NRS 440 VN

Date

Reflection Paper

There is a continuous improvement in the healthcare services in United States of America. There are various factors, which are impacted by sound healthcare facilities, and it includes the improved life expectancy of people in the country. There is a discussion about the nursing shortage in the country and the role of nurses in the healthcare industry (Young, Landstrom, Rosenberger, Guidroz & Albu, 2015). Also, the crucial role of education for nurses is also discussed along with my educational goals.

**Options in the Job Market**

Nurses are an important part of the healthcare industry as they are very close to patients and can understand their problems easily. Also, the demand and supply of nurses in the healthcare sector is not balanced. It is important that students should opt for a degree in nursing profession and should enter the industry, as it is quite easy to get a job with a degree. The nurses should follow the concept of continues education which means they should be involved in learning and improving their knowledge and skills in order to improve the quality of healthcare delivery. I feel that my skills and knowledge can fetch me a job in a big hospital but it is crucial for me to go with further education in order to improve my leadership skills.

**Professional Certification and Advance Degree**

Nurses should pursue post-graduation degree as it is crucial for their career growth and it provides them knowledge with a blend of practical experience that will help them to treat the patients effectively. (Ketefian & Redman, 2015). In United States of America, Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is a very efficient program and it focuses on evidence-based practice and to inculcate leadership qualities in the nurses. Also, the nurses can also opt for PhD degree as it focuses mainly on the research part, which is quite beneficial for nurses, as they have to deal with variety of patients in different situations. The main goal of both the degrees is to enhance the knowledge of nurses and to improve their skills so that they can treat the patients effectively and hence the quality of the healthcare delivery will also be improved. In my opinion, I would rather opt for PhD as the main focus of the degree is the research work and to extract the crucial observations that I can use in my nursing practice. Also, I have to frame the plan as when to start the master degree once I have completed certain years in the industry and by gaining skills and experience.

**Level of Education and Competitiveness in Job Market**

In my opinion, completing a master degree in nursing will help me to get a desired job in the nursing industry and hence the chances of getting a job will increase. I would be able to enhance my skills and knowledge on the completion of higher degree (Blumenthal & McGinnis, 2015). According to Institute of Medicine, the expectation from nurses from the healthcare industry will increase in the upcoming future, so it is important that nurses should pursue higher education to develop skills. In the present scenario, the nurses should be able to take crucial decisions related to patient’s health so that they can recover easily and in an efficient way. It is important that nurses should be able to switch their role from a being a follower to a decision maker, as this would improve the situation of entire healthcare industry.

**Continuing Nursing Education and Competency, Attitudes, Knowledge, & the ANA Scope and Standards for Practice and Code of Ethics**

The focus of the nurses should be on both the academic as well as the practical knowledge so that they can deliver quality results. The academic knowledge will help the nurses to enhance their skills and knowledge that they can apply during the course of healthcare delivery to the patients (Battie, 2013). On the other hand, practical experience will enable them to apply the skills and will improve their experience to provide quality care to the patients. Education will help the nurses to put their efforts in a positive direction and to fetch quality results. The knowledge of ethics and professional behavior is also important for the nurses so that they can apply it to the practical situation.

**Continuing Nursing Education**

Continuing education is quite beneficial for nurses as it would improve their skills and knowledge so that they can deliver quality results (Sochalski & Weiner, 2011). It is important that different stakeholders of the healthcare industry should follow a strategy where the nurses opting for higher education should awarded so that their morale can be boosted. Nurses should be provided with appropriate time and resources so that they can put in their efforts in gathering the required knowledge and skills that they will require during the course of their healthcare delivery. The leaders of the healthcare industry should take initiative and should make a plan to cover the expenses of the education for the nurses. The role of different stakeholders of the healthcare industry is quite important for the growth and development of the nurses in the healthcare industry. There should be a proper counseling and direction for the nurses so that they can continue their education in the desired field, which will help them in their career. Also, there is a need to conceptualize the education system in the colleges and the educational institutions in order to cover all the important aspects of the studies.

**Conclusion**

From the above discussion, it can be seen that the role of nurses is quite important for the healthcare industry and nurses should put some efforts to further improve their role in order to deliver quality results. I feel that learning is a non-ending process and nurses should understand the importance of education and should gain the desired skills and knowledge required for them. Also, it is important that the stakeholders of the healthcare industry should guide nurses so that they can put their efforts in right direction.

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