

ABBOTT NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL'S

Nursing Philosophy

ADVOCACY THROUGH CARING

PATIENTS ARE THE REASON WE EXIST. Caring is critical in helping people maintain health, promote healing, adapt to stressful experiences, and in supporting dignified death. We believe self-determination is a fundamental and valuable human right. Nursing practice at Abbott Northwestern is based on advocacy through caring.

This means that:

A nurse/patient relationship is established based on personal presence and rapport.

Caring involves acts and attitudes of critical thinking, clinical competency, compassion, respect, listening and acceptance.

Caring is maintained even in an environment where change, occurring at an accelerated pace, is the norm.

Patients are valued as individuals who have knowledge and information unique to themselves, a potential for self care and control over their own health care decisions.

Patients' rights to privacy and confidentiality are respected and maintained.

Individuals important to the patient are recognized, valued and supported.

ABOUT QUALITY

QUALITY IS THE COMBINATION OF CLINICAL COMPETENCE AND THE ART OF CARING. Quality nursing care is every patient's right and every department member's responsibility.

Therefore it is essential to:

Achieve the nursing standards of practice and care as defined by the department.

Include the patient's perspective when defining quality.

Collaborate with patients, colleagues and other health care professionals when providing care.

Intervene in a safe and ethical manner.

Offer resources based on patient need.

Act as responsible stewards of human, material and financial resources.

Utilize research and education to strengthen clinical practice.

NURSING PRACTICE

NURSING IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF ABBOTT NORTHWESTERN'S EXCELLENCE. The role we play is integral to the hospital's present strength as well as its future success. We recognize staff as the most valued of resources.

Therefore, it is essential to:

Recognize the registered nurse as a leader and the integrator of patient care.

Recruit and retain the most talented individuals.

Promote mutual trust, open communication and respect.

Integrate change within the context of the fundamental values of the department.

Create an environment that recognizes and celebrates individual differences and accomplishments.

Demonstrate pride, accountability and leadership in professional practice.

Support and encourage professional development.