



3 things you can do
right now to support your
nurses at the bedside



Clinical Skills

Why it's so important to improve the nursing experience

Nurses today pay an emotional tax for each patient they meet. In fact, they regularly juggle the need to deliver empathetic care, maintain prompt, continuous communication with the interprofessional care team and patient's family, and ensure that documentation is accurate and complete¹. That's all in a day's work.

On top of that, patients today are sicker, often with comorbidities making their care more complex. And nursing shortages are on the rise, which means nurses are more likely to be called on to perform unexpected and critical procedures, at times in unfamiliar situations. Additionally, they may be carrying larger caseloads. Combined, these factors can impact nurse and patient well-being.

Nurses today:

- + **Arrive on the floor faster, with less preparation to get them ready for practice**
- + **Face larger caseloads, giving them less time to care for each individual patient**
- + **Care for more patients with complex health needs**

The unprecedented stress on nurses is real. Nursing has become so challenging, in fact, that 32% of registered nurses² say they might leave their direct patient-care role.



32% of registered nurses are thinking about leaving their direct patient-care role.²

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As the backbone of healthcare - and a much-needed compassion point - nurses need to be functioning at the highest levels. They need to feel supported so they can fulfill their many competing responsibilities and maintain high levels of care delivery.

With patient care quality at stake, nurse leaders need new ways to support and satisfy their nursing staff.

Prioritizing the nursing experience is key. Fortunately, there are three steps nurse leaders can take to ease some of the physical, emotional, and mental burnout factors for nurses, including:

- 1. Personalizing guidance to help nurses make confident decisions at the bedside.**
- 2. Giving back valuable time through evidence-based skills integrated directly into the EHR workflow.**
- 3. Using actionable insights to pinpoint where nurses need support, education, and guidance.**

In doing so, nurse leaders can positively impact the daily routines of nurses, increase their confidence in moment-to-moment decision-making, and ultimately, enhance patient care.





➤ ONE

Personalized guidance to help nurses make confident decisions at the bedside

At every moment and with each patient they see, nurses want to be confident that they're delivering the best possible care.

That can be difficult when you consider that nurses make a judgment every 30 seconds in an average eight-hour shift. That's 960 decisions in just one shift.

Nurse leaders can support effective decision-making by providing nurses with a personalized and streamlined workflow experience, with information tailored based on the skills needed for a nurse's shift.

Proactively suggesting relevant skills and procedures based on the specific patients, diagnoses, and orders that make up each nurse's scheduled day can alleviate the need to search for answers and save nurses valuable time. Offering this capability can give the encouragement nurses need to be sure they're doing the right thing for their patients no matter the circumstances they face.

Having quick access to relevant guidance helps nurses to be better prepared for new or infrequently performed procedures. Consider the:

- + **New ICU nurse working the night shift who gets an order for a procedure she's never performed on her own.**
- + **Seasoned nurse who's floating to the surgical floor to help with staffing shortages but finds herself facing procedures she hasn't done in years.**
- + **Travel nurse who needs to get up to speed on a hospital's unique procedures.**



960

Nurses make roughly 960 decisions in an average eight-hour shift.³

▾ TWO

Giving back valuable time through evidence-based skills integrated directly into the EHR workflow

Nurses facing new challenges from day to day—even minute-to-minute—need quick, easy access to information and resources that give them confidence in their skills.

Since 90% of nurses believe they do not have enough time to properly care for patients⁴, providing them with opportunities to save time and increase efficiency should be a high priority for nurse leaders.

During a shift, interruptions can decrease nurse efficiency and are a known contributor to clinical errors.⁵ Given that nurses already spend much of their work time using an EHR, it makes sense to provide access to information right where they are. Delivering trusted clinical skills information within a nurse's EHR workflow avoids having to move between applications, saving valuable time and attention that nurses could otherwise be spending with patients.

In addition to helping maximize efficiency, having reliable information easily accessible at the point of care reduces the risk of nurses using conflicting, outdated, or unreliable guidance.



50%

Nurses spend up to 50% of their work time using EHRs⁶






▾ THREE

Use actionable insights to pinpoint where nurses need support, education, and guidance

For nurse leaders, it is more important than ever to have the data and insights needed to optimize their nursing teams' performance and proactively drive specific clinical programs. For example, if you see an increase in falls or hospital acquired infections, access to granular data on the use of evidence-based skills and procedures can uncover trends or potential causes so they can be addressed to improve care.

The right data and insights can make it easier to determine nurses' knowledge gaps, create more targeted training and education, and drive more consistent use of evidence-based skills and procedures throughout an organization.

As nurse leaders contend with the growing number of overstressed nurses thinking about leaving the profession, it's more crucial than ever to take action. With evidence-based skills and procedures as part of nurses' workflow, they will feel more supported with fast, easy access to the guidance they need. Nurses can stay in the moment, quickly refreshing on skills and building confidence for improved patient care.



Learn how you can support your nurses with quick access to trusted guidance, right within their workflow, when it matters most – now with Elsevier's Clinical Skills new EHR application.

To learn more, please visit elsevier.com/skills-ehr.

CITATIONS

- 1 https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/nursing/a-broken-system-can-only-run-for-so-long-why-2-nurses-left-the-profession-and-what-would-have-made-them-stay.html?utm_medium=email&utm_content=newsletter
- 2 <https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/healthcare-systems-and-services/our-insights/surveyed-nurses-consider-leaving-direct-patient-care-at-elevated-rates>
- 3 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4289314/>
- 4 <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/quality/survey-90-of-nurses-admit-they-do-not-have-enough-time-to-properly-care-for-patients.html>
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