

Busting Myths about Nursing in LTC

Myth # 1

Nursing in long-term care (LTC) doesn't require a high level of nursing skills.

Fact

Many people who live in LTC have complex conditions and require 24/7 care. Nurses in LTC need excellent clinical assessment and critical thinking skills.

Myth #2

Nursing in LTC homes isn't rewarding.

Fact

Nurses in LTC typically provide continuing care for months at a time, which offers an opportunity to develop enriching, trusting and meaningful relationships with residents and family members. One of the most rewarding aspects is seeing how an intervention can positively impact a resident long term.

Myth #3

LTC nursing is the same as end-of-life nursing.

Fact

LTC homes are welcoming communities where residents engage in a lot of living! Maximizing a resident's quality of life can bring tremendous joy. Working in LTC allows nurses to serve as advocates for the aging population who may not feel like priorities in our society.



“My work in LTC is giving me life satisfaction.”

Myth #4

LTC nursing doesn't involve bedside care.

Fact

LTC nurses must possess well-developed, astute assessment skills and the ability to respond rapidly to a resident's change in condition. LTC nurses give residents clinical support by delivering curative, supportive, rehabilitative and palliative care using a person-centred approach.

Myth #5

LTC nursing doesn't include teamwork.

Fact

LTC requires an interprofessional team approach. LTC nurses are links between the care team, specialists, residents and family members. A nurse in LTC may be responsible for supervising many team members, including students.

“My work in LTC is meaningful because I can help make a change not only in a resident's life but their family as well.”



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