

MODULE I

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING: ROLES & FUNCTIONS

OVERVIEW: This module highlights key documents that help to define public health nursing, the public health nurse's role in promoting health and preventing illness, and issues impacting public health nursing practice.

PREREQUISITE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

Knowledge and application of the nursing process, synthesis knowledge of public health and public health nursing practice.

OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of this module, the participant will be able to:

1. Identify contributions of key historical leaders of public health nursing.
2. Discuss the ANA Scope and Standards of Public Health Nursing.
3. Identify nursing roles related to assessment, assurance and policy development and the essential services.
4. Describe examples from public health nursing of public health interventions.
5. Discuss public health nurses' responsibilities to their patients, the employing agency, and other health care providers.
6. Discuss the impact of the Nursing Practice Act, ANA Code of Ethics, and APHA's Public Health Code of Ethics on public health nursing practice.

KEY TERMS:

Advocacy	Essential services
Aggregate	Ethics
Assessment	Independent practice
Assurance	Policy development
Confidentiality	Public health interventions
Dependent practice	Public health nursing

READING ASSIGNMENT: You may choose to read from the 7th or 8th edition of Stanhope and Lancaster.

Stanhope and Lancaster, 7th Edition (2008). Chapters 1, 2, 6, pages 134-135; Chapter 9 and Chapter 45, plus Appendices G.1, G.2 and G.3.

Stanhope and Lancaster, 8th Edition (2012). Chapter 1, pages 1-21; Chapter 2, pages 22 – 43; Chapter 6, pages 125 – 140; Chapter 9, pages 186-195; plus Appendices G.1, G.2 and G.3.

Nursing Practice Act, State of North Carolina.