News on nursing in the media

Are nurses getting the respect they need to save lives?

January 31, 2020

Headlines

1. Ontario nurses urge resistant city leaders to equip police with naloxone
2. Pennsylvania nurses publish powerful opinion pieces to protect public
3. NPR on nursing as low-skilled tending
4. A U.K. picture book gives kids a strong introduction to nursing
5. UMass nursing professor promotes health innovation—and nursing

Support our efforts to transform nursing's image

News Summaries
Outrageous

Ontario nurses urge resistant city leaders to equip police with naloxone

In November 2019 the Windsor Star ran a good report about the persistent advocacy of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario and its CEO to persuade the city of Windsor to have officers carry the opioid antidote, and to set up a safe consumption site for users, in order to reduce overdose deaths.

Recipient of a Best Public Health Advocacy by Nurses 2010-2019 Award

“Wait, wait, wait, did she just say that a registered nurse could provide better care than a physician?”

Pennsylvania nurses publish powerful opinion pieces to protect public

A February 2019 op-ed in The Philadelphia Inquirer opposed the criminalization of health care errors, using the case of a Tennessee nurse to illustrate how system failures are often the main cause. And an April 2019 piece in the Pennsylvania Capital-Star urged reform to enable those who experience sexual assault to get care and forensic exams from the nurses who are the true experts.

Recipients of Best Public Health Advocacy by Nurses 2010-2019 Awards
A beautiful sentiment

On NPR’s “The Call-In,” nursing is just as hard as low-skilled tending can be!

On Weekend Edition Sunday, several direct care nurses addressed the state of nursing. Unfortunately, what came across in the January 2018 piece was mostly the suffering angel stereotype, with no real sign that nurses are educated professionals who save lives. And professor Peter Buerhaus’s comments about understaffing and nurse practitioner care were damaging distortions.

Just as important as physicians

A 2017 U.K. picture book gives kids a strong introduction to nursing

You Wouldn’t Want to Live Without Nurses features lots of useful, substantive information about the history, diversity, and modern practice of nursing, without much stereotyping. The book doesn’t fully convey nursing...
Stereotyping. The book doesn’t fully convey nursing autonomy or the value of nurse practitioners, and kids may find it more informative than compelling. But it’s probably the best children’s book about nursing that we’ve seen so far.

Inventing justice

UMass nursing professor promotes health innovation—and nursing

An August 2018 Forbes piece by Stephen Key spotlights three award-winning female inventors, including University of Massachusetts nursing professor Rachel Walker. Walker has created impressive inventions for cancer patients. But in this August 2018 piece, she also addresses the barriers nurses and patients face—and how to overcome them.
See Sandy Summers in the UK in May 2020!

On May 12, 2020, Truth About Nursing founder and director Sandy Summers will appear at the University of Sheffield to address the question, "What are the best ways of informing and engaging the public about nursing"? This is part of a consensus development project of the Strategic Research Alliance, a joint effort of the University of Sheffield and The Royal College of Nursing, which aims to address the five most important questions facing nursing in the UK. Nurses will present their findings to a lay panel to initiate public policy changes, with the ultimate goal of strengthening UK nursing care. Please join Sandy there!

Planning a nurses week event? Book the Truth About Nursing's founder and executive director today!

Let Sandy Summers, RN, MSN, MPH, empower your nurses and help them fully embrace their autonomy!

Patients deserve better protection. Let Sandy help your nurses and students fully embrace their autonomy to strengthen nursing care, reduce errors and improve care! Sandy speaks widely to a variety of international nursing groups. Click here to see details and book her today!

Book Sandy Summers for Nurses Week Now!
After 348 tries, Grey's Anatomy portrayed a nurse doing the nursing work of educating a patient. Encourage Grey’s to continue and bring on more nurse characters to do the nursing instead of the surgeons who almost always do it.

Project Nightingale

Don't let this be a search result for "Nightingale. "New Google / Ascension project has already breached nursing’s data security.

The Good Doctor strongly reinforces the stereotype that nurses are low-skilled physician lackeys who are barely involved in hospital care.

Cardi B needs education as to why the naughty nurse damages the nursing profession

Netflix and Ryan Murphy plan two-season TV origin story for Nurse Ratched, one of the most damaging anti-nurse stereotypes in history, releasing this fall.

Why is a biologist directing nursing research funded by the US government?
Inside Amy Schumer used vicious anti-nurse stereotypes

Family Feud uses naughty nurses and battleaxes as a mainstay of its "jokes"

We can turn $5/month into a more empowered nursing profession. Join us?

Presentations

How can nurses become fierce advocates?

Sandy Summers delivered an empowering message to new graduates at graduation speech at Widener University's Nightingale ceremony last week

In a short, compelling address, Sandy Summers welcomes new graduates to the field of nursing and inspires them to become fierce patient advocates—to put patients' interests first. Sandy explains her holistic vision of nursing advocacy and shares strategies to help nurses find their voices. She highlights areas in need of our advocacy and offers perspectives on how to overcome the resistance we meet when we challenge the world to do better. Nursing advocacy saves lives, and our patients need us.

Can you please donate $5 or $10 per month to support our work? Thank you!
advocacy saves lives, and our patients need us to do it. So please join Sandy and let's get started!

See the speech!

Professors

Planning your curriculum?

We have ideas

Many nursing professors rely on the extensive and varied materials on the Truth's website to help their students engage with critical issues nurses will face in the future, from their public image to key aspects of nursing education, practice, and advocacy. Since 2001, we have explored and analyzed how the global media and society in general has seen the nursing profession. Join your colleagues and use this material to help plan your curriculum! Please consider some of these ideas...

See our curriculum ideas...

Books
Imagine a world where nurses were fully empowered to protect patients

Get an author-signed copy of *Saving Lives* for you or a friend

*Saving Lives* is the transformative book acclaimed by nurses, nursing leaders, scholars, and the media. It can help your friends, colleagues, and students become the strong nurses our profession needs to protect patients from errors, injuries, and disease. See praise for *Saving Lives: Why the Media’s Portrayal of Nursing Puts Us All at Risk* by leaders in nursing and the media as well as the awards it has earned, including three Book of the Year awards from the *American Journal of Nursing* and an award from Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. The updated second edition from Oxford University Press is now available! All donations and royalties go directly to support The Truth About Nursing, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Thank you for your support!

Learn more about Saving Lives!

Think about the future

New international text *Nurses and Nursing* leads off with chapter by Truth leaders

The exciting new textbook *Nurses and Nursing: The Person and the Profession* includes a chapter on nursing’s image by Truth leaders Sandy Summers and Harry Jacobs Summers. Edited by Padraig O Luanaigh, RN, EdD, the thought-provoking new textbook from Routledge "draws on international contributors with a range of backgrounds to explore, engage with and challenge readers in understanding the many aspects and elements that inform and influence contemporary nursing practice." Our chapter is "Nursing’s public image: Toward a
professional future." We thank Dr. Luanaigh for the opportunity to be a part of this important new project. Please consider this book for your classes in professionalism, nursing and society, and nursing leadership. Click here to request a free copy for review now! See more about the book here...

Learn more about "Nurses and Nursing"...

Change the world with us!

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