News on nursing in the media

Are nurses getting the respect they need to save lives?

April 16, 2020

Headlines

1. ICU nurse tells *New York Times* readers what it’s like to care for Covid-19 patients


3. Jimmy Kimmel thanks nurses and others who saved his son

4. Pakistan’s Geo on the year of nursing

5. *Hotel Artemis* wastes criminals, nurse character

6. Sign our petition for more PPE!

7. Caring for Covid-19 patients: Vitamin D, O2, proning, advocacy, free classes

8. In-person speaking engagements on hold for a while, but you can still book an online engagement for nurses week or graduation now!


PLEASE SUPPORT our efforts to bring nursing respect.
Life during wartime

ICU nurse tells New York Times readers what it’s like to care for Covid-19 patients

In a strong April 2020 opinion piece, Simone Hannah-Clark took readers inside the day of a New York City ICU nurse. She captured the drama of caring for gravely ill Covid-19 patients while protecting herself and her family. She also described nurses’ assessments, monitoring, and interventions; portrayed physicians as colleagues (not supervisors); and specifically rejected the handmaiden and angel stereotypes.

Read more...

Selfless

New York Post: Nurse at hospital using trash bags as PPE dies of Covid-19

A powerful March 2020 piece in the New York Post reported that Mount Sinai West nurse manager Kious Kelly had died of Covid-19. He had been working in a clinical setting in which nurses, lacking personal protective equipment, had been wearing trash bags as gowns. The hospital's tributes to Kelly leaned heavily on angel imagery—the same imagery that encourages nurses to sacrifice themselves and not object to mistreatment or deadly resource shortages.
A huge team effort

Jimmy Kimmel thanks nurses and others who saved his son

A May 2017 episode of ABC's Jimmy Kimmel Live featured a long account of how the host's newborn had survived his first days with a life-threatening heart condition. Some of Kimmel's narrative reinforced a physician-genius vision in which nurses are just "kind and caring." But he also carefully explained how two "excellent" nurses had first detected the condition, and he thanked many nurses by name.

Nursing Now!

Pakistan's Geo on 2019 as the year of nursing

The Pakistan website Geo reports that the nation’s President declared 2019 to be “the year of nursing.” He spoke at the Islamabad launch of the Nursing Now campaign, a project of the World Health Organization and the International Council of Nurses that aims to advance nursing across the globe.
Hotel Artemis

Hotel Artemis wastes criminals, nurse character

The dystopian 2018 thriller imagines a secret, high-tech L.A. hospital for criminals, run by a tough and expert nurse, creatively named The Nurse. But not even Jodie Foster can save the character from the movie's half-baked, formulaic execution.

Adapting to a new world:
Strategies for Covid-19 care

Best therapies for Covid-19
Taking vitamin D could prevent inflammation and a cytokine storm associated with end-stage Covid-19--study says.

Oxygen, not pressure is what Covid-19 patients need because it does not present as typical ARDS say Italian authors.

Are ventilators causing more harm than good? Exploration of strategies to oxygenate Covid patients.

See the article

See the article

See the article

Proning

A nurse discovered the benefits of placing patients prone to treat ARDS.

How to safely turn a patient prone--great guidelines from the London (Ontario) Health Sciences Centre.

See the article

See the article

Position papers in support of nurses

Employers bizarrely challenging your right to protect yourself? JCAHO offers a position paper in support of nurses trying to protect themselves. Use this document for protection.

The American Association of Nurse Attorneys has a position paper in support of nurses.
The American Association of Critical Care Nurses has a free course on ventilation of Covid-19 patients.

American Nurses Association has three free classes on Covid-19 care:
- Ventilation
- Self protection and patient care;
- Ethics for the Covid-19 patient

Free refresher course at the University of North Carolina for nurses looking to come back to the bedside to help out with the Covid-19.

Beware bathroom exhaust fans

In the 2002-2003 SARS epidemic, one patient spread the illness to 187 of his fellow apartment building

Soap
A good video to show kids on the power of soap to kill the coronavirus.
dwellers, apparently by use of his bathroom exhaust fan.

**Covid-19 remains active on surfaces:**
- 5 minutes: 158 F (70 C) at 85% humidity
- 30 minutes: 132 F (56 C)
- 2 days: 98.6 F (37 C)
- 2 weeks: 72 F (22 C)
- Weeks when refrigerated
- Years when frozen

**Lets make doorknobs out of copper or aluminum.**

**Masks: How official masks are made; safety of homemade masks**
Research: Cloth masks poorly filter organisms and harbor infection.

One idea for adaptation: the diaper mask.

It has many layers of non-woven fabric...something to be said for this innovation.

Non-woven fabrics are the standard. N95 manufacturers use 4 layers of non-woven fabric. If family members and neighbors offer to sew masks, consider urging them to use non-woven fabrics. We haven't yet found official guidelines on how to make N95 masks. Please send them to us if you see them. Thank you.

Watch N95 masks get made:

Video 1

Video 2

How melt-blown fabric (non-woven fabric) is made

A couple of leads on finding PPE

Click here to order surgical masks

Click here to order face shields

Sign our letter to U.S. officials to increase PPE!
Speaking engagements

See Sandy Summers in Florida in August 2020

On August 21, 2020, Truth About Nursing founder and director Sandy Summers will be the keynote speaker at the Florida Nurse Practitioner Network (FNPN) conference in Orlando. The FNPN's theme for this, its 17th conference, will be "2020: The Year NP's Inspire, Innovate & Motivate." If you can, please come see Sandy and be inspired! The conference will be held at the Orlando World Center Marriott.

Register Now

See Sandy Summers in Nebraska in November 2020

On November 6, 2020, Truth About Nursing director Sandy Summers will give the keynote address at the Nebraska Action Coalition-Future of Nursing's Fall Leadership / Culture of Health Conference. Sandy will also give a shorter presentation at the 40 Under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders’ Award Ceremony. The conference will be held at the Holthus Convention Center in York, Nebraska. Please come see Sandy if you can!
Nurses week events thrown into the air? The Truth About Nursing's founder and executive director can give an online presentation!

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!

Sign all of our petitions. Demand respect for nursing!
Ask U.S. federal officials to get nurses more PPE and Covid-19 tests instead of leaving nurses without proper protection.

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.

Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt: "Thank God for stupid nurses"

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

Inside Amy Schumer used vicious anti-nurse stereotypes.

The Good Doctor strongly reinforces the stereotype that nurses are low-skilled physician lackeys who are barely involved in hospital care.
Don’t let this be a search result for "Nightingale. "New Google / Ascension project has already breached nursing’s data security.

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.

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.
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 to do it. So please join Sandy and let's get started!
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...

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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 be the strong nurses our profession needs to protect patients from errors, injuries, and disease. See the media's portrayal of nursing, better it all be...
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 awarded 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!

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...](#)
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