News on nursing in the media

Are nurses getting the respect they need to save lives?
February 20, 2022

Headlines

1. Better care through better software--our meeting with Epic


3. CBS News report highlights crisis of too few nurses in U.S. schools

4. *New Amsterdam* pushes reform—but through the same old physician-centric narrative

5. Deadline for nominations for the 2021 Truth About Nursing media awards now 2/28/22!

6. Book an online or in-person engagement now!

7. Sign all our petitions: *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*, *Grey's Anatomy*, *Ratched*, *Cardi B*, *The Good Doctor*, *Amy Schumer*, *Family Feud*

Please help us bring nurses respect with a $5/month donation!

**News Summaries**
Yeah, not really

_NYT: “Your Head of H.R. Is Now Basically the School Nurse”_

A January 2022 _New York Times_ report says Covid has forced corporate human resources personnel to manage new health-related tasks, including testing and vaccination procedures. But that does not mean, as the headline suggests, that they are now “the school nurse.” School nurses hold a professional health care position that includes clinical management of complex health problems and requires at least a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

Better care through better software - - our meeting with Epic

_January 2022 discussion with the leading charting software maker focused on ways to improve nursing care_

Truth About Nursing director Sandy Summers and colleagues recently met with representatives of Epic. They discussed how charting software might be improved to reduce the burden on nurses and allow them to give more and better patient care.

The school health scandal

_CBS News report highlights crisis of too few nurses in U.S. schools_

The piece explains that only three in five schools have a full time school nurse and that this presents serious risks to students. It does a good job consulting nurses, who describe the cause of the problem—budget cuts—as well as some of the effects on student health. The 2019 piece might have also explored how the shortage affects education, since kids can’t learn as well while they are needlessly sick.
Progress and Regress

*New Amsterdam* pushes reform—but through the same old physician-centric narrative

On the NBC drama’s first season (2018-19), maverick medical director Max Goodwin and a half dozen physician colleagues shake up conventional care at an overburdened public hospital. But aside from a few plotlines involving the minor nurse character Casey Acosta, it’s more of the same damaging Hollywood model, with nurses as silent servants to the brilliant physicians who call all the shots and save all the lives.

Submit nominations for the 2021 Truth About Nursing media awards extended until 2/28/22!

Please consider nominating candidates with diverse backgrounds

We are now accepting nominations for the Truth About Nursing awards, which recognize the most notable - best and worst - media about nursing in 2021! Who is the best nurse advocate on Twitter? Instagram? Facebook? TikTok? Through these annual awards, we inform media creators, the nursing community, and the wider public about the accuracy of nursing portrayals in the media today. The end goal is to improve understanding of the profession, which we believe will increase the respect and resources it receives.

Speaking engagements
Planning events? The Truth About Nursing’s founder and executive director gives keynotes!

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. (She’s vaccinated and boosted.) Click here to see details and book her today!

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

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.

Sign all of our petitions. Demand respect for nursing!
Cardi B needs education as to why the naughty nurse damages the nursing profession.

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

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.

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

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 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!
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...
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...

Presentations

How can nurses become fierce advocates?

Sandy Summers delivered an empowering message to new graduates in a 2019 speech at Widener University’s Nightingale ceremony.

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...
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!

See the speech!

Change the world with us!

Your support is what makes it possible for us to improve public understanding of nursing -- one media image at a time. Please make a generous donation today. Thank you!

Join the effort to bring nurses more respect!

Join our action teams for:

- Nurses and students
- Professors and researchers
- Members of the media
- Many more!

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