Advanced Nursing in Practice - The New York Experience

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Session Aims

• Brief description of Advanced Practice
• The role of the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) within the UK
• Consider the potential that ANP services have in practice
• Placement aims & objectives
• Planning the visit
• What I gained from the visit
• The impact back home
• Where are we now
Brief description of Advanced Practice

- Advanced Practice began in the USA in response to a number of factors
- Included concerns about quality of care by developing new nursing roles as nurses expanded their practice. Often in response to shortage of doctors
- One line definition of AP has however, proven problematic
- Advanced Practice has developed around the world in response to similar needs
- Advanced Practice remains a umbrella term which encompassed all enhanced nursing roles
The Role of the ANP within the UK

• Within UK changes in medical roles – EWTD (2009) further propelled AP into the limelight
• Nurses with enhanced skills were able to bridge the gaps within the health system
• The development of ANP’s has presented significant opportunities for role development and service innovation in the UK
• Concern has grown regarding the number of staff working within an AP role, variation of names, and lack of clarity in this area
Uphill Climb
Advanced Practice should be viewed as a level of practice

- **Underpinning principles:**
  - autonomous practice
  - critical thinking
  - high level decision-making
  - problem-solving
  - values-based care
  - improving practice
  - educated to Masters Degree level
What does an ANP do?

- Take a comprehensive history from patients with undifferentiated diagnosis
- Carry out physical examinations
- Undertake and interpret relevant investigations
- Make a diagnosis
- Decide on and carry out treatment, including the prescribing of medicines
- Provide skilled and competent care
- Work independently
What else does an ANP do?

• Provides consistency
• Part of a team of clinical leaders
• Focused on quality indicators; Governance, education and development of clinical nursing standards which ensures safety
• Audit and evaluation of practice
• Strategic planning
• Clinical role model
Main advantages

- Reduced waiting times
- Initiate investigations and treatment earlier in the patient journey
- Support early discharge
- Run ANP led clinics
- Permanent member of senior staff
- Provides consistency among a changing workforce
Placement aim

- Was a result of an overseas travel award
- To gain insight into how ANP’s are trained and supported within the clinical environment in the USA and relate this to the UK
- Observe new ways of working within acute medical services
- Observe how ANP services are utilised in practice and the impact on patient care
- Daily experiences of ANP in USA and compare to UK
Planning of visit

• Fears post 9/11 > red tape
• Downtown hospital pulled out
• Indemnity Insurance
• American healthcare system
• NY Presbyterian Hospital – 3 sites
  – Columbia-Milstein Hospital
  – Weill-Cornell Hospital
  – Allen Pavilion
• Produced varied itinerary
What I gained from the visit – part 1

• Observing how ‘culturally’ the ANP fitted within the hospital, they appeared well established and respected
• Visibility of ANP services – ex-surgical nurses
• Clinical services had similarities for example cardiac, neurology, elderly care
• Predominantly a 7 day service 0900-2100
• Medical Registrar daily joined in with their service
What I gained from the visit – part 2

• ANP services improved patient care, often designed around patient needs
• Often ANP instrumental in identifying the needs and designing the services
• How ANP and PA worked together
• Hospital embraced ANP educational needs attended joint learning seminars with medical colleagues
• Rehab physiotherapy department like a film set and at the front door
Yellow Cab
What I gained from the visit – part 3

- Impression of ED
- Impact of ANP in ED
- Pull rather than push
- Bring procedure and speciality consultant to front door
- Creative services (interestingly seen most in ED)
- Diabetic services mirrored what we have at my Trust, what was interesting was there impact into the diabetic research department
What I gained from the visit – part 4

• University of Hunters College of Nursing – sat in on some ANP lectures and talked to students
• Difference is that nurses on these ANP programmes can’t practice until the course is passed and the credentialing process done so they are registered as an ANP in the state they wish to practice
• Level is clearly defined. Something we continue to strive towards in the UK
Impact back home

- New ideas for services
- Challenges of practice in diabetes
- Lessons to learn with service development in critical care
- ANP experiences informed own research
- Level of practice and how differing roles have their place within services and departments
- Competencies framework and through education, standardising practice
- Trust responsibilities to ANP
Lady at airport

Count the black dots! :o)
Future is bright

Advanced Practice
Thank you for listening

Any questions or comments?