

Health Care Delivery Systems

Methods of Health Care Delivery Systems: Different methods are used to ensure continuity of care and cost- effective care as a patient moves through the health care systems. These methods include:

- **Managed Care Systems:** Managed care systems are a way of providing care that is designed to control the cost while still maintaining the quality of that care.
- **Case Management:** Case management is a method used to coordinate a patient's Health Care to achieve patient wellness and optimum function through advocacy, communication, and education.
- **Primary health care:** Primary health care is defined as essential health care based on practical, scientifically sound, and socially acceptable methods and technology, made universally accessible to individual and families in the community through their full participation and at a cost the community can afford.

Health Care Settings and Services:

Health care is provided within many different type of facilities to meet the needs of people. Examples of nursing activities various heaths care setting.

- **Hospitals:** Hospitals provide both inpatient and outpatient services.

A-Inpatient :Is a person who enters a hospital and stays overnight for an indeterminate time (ranging from days to months).

B-Outpatients: Those who are not hospitalized overnight but who require diagnosis or treatment.

- **Primary care centers:** Physicians and advanced practice nurse provide primary health care services in offices and clinics.
- **Ambulatory care centers and clinics:** (Agencies that deliver medical care on an outpatient basis) may be located in hospitals, may be a free- standing service provided by a group of health care providers who work together.
- **Home Health Care:** Home health care is one of the most rapidly growing areas of health care system.
- **Long-Term care:** Long-term care provides medical and nonmedical care for people with chronic illnesses or disabilities. Long-term care may extend for periods ranging from days to years.

Specialized Care Center and Settings :

Specialized care center and settings-provide services for a specific population or group. They are usually located in easily accessible locations within a community.

- **Daycare Centers:** Daycare centers have a variety of purposes. some centers care for healthy infants and children whose parents work some also care for children with minor illnesses. Eldercare centers.
- **Mental health centers:** Mental health centers may be associated with a hospital or may provide services as an independent agency .
- **Rural health centers:** Rural health centers are often located in geographically remote areas that have few healthcare providers
- **Schools:** Schools nurse are often the major source of health assessment ,health education. Schools nurses provide many different services, including maintaining immunization records, providing emergency care for physical and mental illnesses.
- **Industry:** Many large industries have their own ambulatory care clinic. Occupational health nurses in industrial clinics focus on preventing work-related injury .
- **Homeless shelters:** The Homeless are at increased risk for illness or injury because of factors such as exposure to violence ,drug, alcohol addiction ,poor nutrition.
- **Rehabilitation centers:** Rehabilitation centers specialize in services for patients requiring physical or emotional rehabilitation .

The goal is to return patients to optimal health and return them to the community as independent members of society.

Health Care Services for Caregivers and End- of-Life Care:

Health care services are provided for the caregivers of those who are chronically ill and for patients and caregivers as a part of end-of-life care. These services include:

- **Respite Care:** Respite care is a type of care provided for caregivers of homebound ill, disabled, or elderly patients.
- **Hospice Services:** Hospice is program of palliative and supportive care services providing physical, psychological, social, and spiritual care for dying persons, their families, and other loved ones.
- **Palliative care:** Palliative care is an area of care that has evolved out of the hospice experience, but also exists outside hospice of programs.

Health Care Agencies:

Many different types of agencies provide health care services.

These services include:

- **Voluntary Agencies** : These agencies are financed by private donation .Example voluntary agencies are Meals on wheels, which supplies meals to elderly and homebound people , and shopping or house-cleaning services.
- **Parish Nursing**: Parish nursing is an expanding area of specialty nursing practice that emphasizes holistic healthcare ,health promotion and disease-prevention activities.
- **Government Agencies**: Local taxes finance government agencies. taxes help support hospitals and public health clinics, state taxes help support state mental health hospitals.

The Health Care Team:

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Physical Therapist
- Respiratory Therapist

- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Therapist
- Dietitian
- Pharmacist
- Social Worker
- Unlicensed Assistive Personnel

Federally Funded Health Care Programs:

The primary Federally Funded Health Care are Medicare and Medicaid.

- **Medicare:** Amendments to the Social Security Act established national and state health insurance programs for the elderly.
- **Medicaid :** Is a Federally Funded public assistance programs for people of any age who have low income; for the blind, elderly.

Factors that Affect Health Care Delivery

- Increasing number of elderly
- Advances in technology
- Economics
- Women's health issues
- Uneven distribution of services

- Access to health insurance
- Homeless and the poor
- Demographic changes