

The Role of the Nurse Informaticist in Systems Development and Implementation

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The system development cycle (SDLC) entails the information system's development, implementation, and retirement. It is a process that begins with initiation, analysis, design, implementation, maintenance, and disposal. The hospital wants to implement a new nursing documentation system and intends to ensure it is acceptable and usable hence the need for a nurse leader in the team. A well-informed nurse or nurse informaticist is necessary to help guide the implementation process of new systems to replace old ones or perform new functions. This essay explains the roles of graduate-level nurses to guide them through their participation in implementing the new nursing documentation system.

A nurse in the leadership position is an important step in ensuring the success of the new nursing documentation system implementation. According to Vito and Sethi (2020), leadership is important in ensuring the success of change interventions, and a designated leader is necessary for coordinated activities and well-established authority. A leader in implementation also ensures order in activity implementation and prevents conflicts, role confusion, and activity overrides common in leaderless activities (Vito & Sethi, 2020). However, leaders come with costs, and hiring a leader for change interventions is expensive. However, the costs of change intervention failure supersede the costs of hiring a leader, hence the need for a new leader.

The nurse will assist in planning the change activities and preparing the project documents, such as the project's scope and statement of work. The nurse will collaborate with the other professionals to prepare the change project plan, including budgeting. Canterino et al. (2020) note that distributed leadership in change interventions helps distribute the weight of activities in the leadership team, which enhances the collaboration and coordination necessary for successful change. She will also avail herself to participate in meetings to oversee the

documentation project implementation. The nurse (an informaticist) will help collect data on the need for the new documentation system and analyze the data to help implement changes to address these needs, an important leadership role, as McGonigle and Mastrian (2022) note. The nurse will also assist in analyzing the effectiveness of the current and new documentation systems after implementation to determine the significance of their implementation in the facility.

The nurse will evaluate nursing documentation needs and activities to offer vital perspectives on the design of the new technology. The nurse will also provide feedback and collect feedback from other nurses on the suitability, operability, and functionality of the new system. According to Curtis and Brooks (2020), factors affecting the successful implementation of systems in healthcare include their operability, knowledge of their use, suitability in performing specific roles, and efficacy. Nurses and other healthcare providers will likely fail to implement systems that are too complex or do not meet their intended use (Curtis & Brooks, 2020). The nurse will also educate them on the need for the technology, promoting its acceptance and successful implementation (AlQudah et al., 2021)

The nurse will guide the nurses in implementing the new documentation system. She will also assist the team and manager in supervising and overseeing the technology's implementation. The nurse will educate them how on how to use the technology. The graduate-level nurse will also facilitate the technology's implementation, such as educating nurses and demonstrating the technology's implementation when called upon—post-implementation support. In the post-implementation period, the nurse will evaluate the utilization of the new system and assess nurses' needs to plan their support. She will also continuously report on the technology's

implementation for improvement purposes. Continuous training is necessary to refresh the skills of nurses and ensure they

Conclusion

Leadership in change management is significant in ensuring quality and safe outcomes. The graduate-level nurse will play a vital role in the changes. The roles include assisting with managerial activities and contributing knowledge to the change team. The nurse will also educate other nurses on the technology's implementation and assist in its analysis and post-implementation support. Thus, the graduate-level nurse will play a vital role in the change management process.

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