

Oncology Nurses' Competencies and Nursing role in clinical trials

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Objectives

Identify the competencies of the nurse who works in the three levels of prevention in relation to cancer.

Defend the importance of nursing staff in clinical trials and research.

Appreciate the scope of the nursing professional in achieving the objectives related to health.

Propose strategies to increase nursing participation during clinical trials.

Introduction

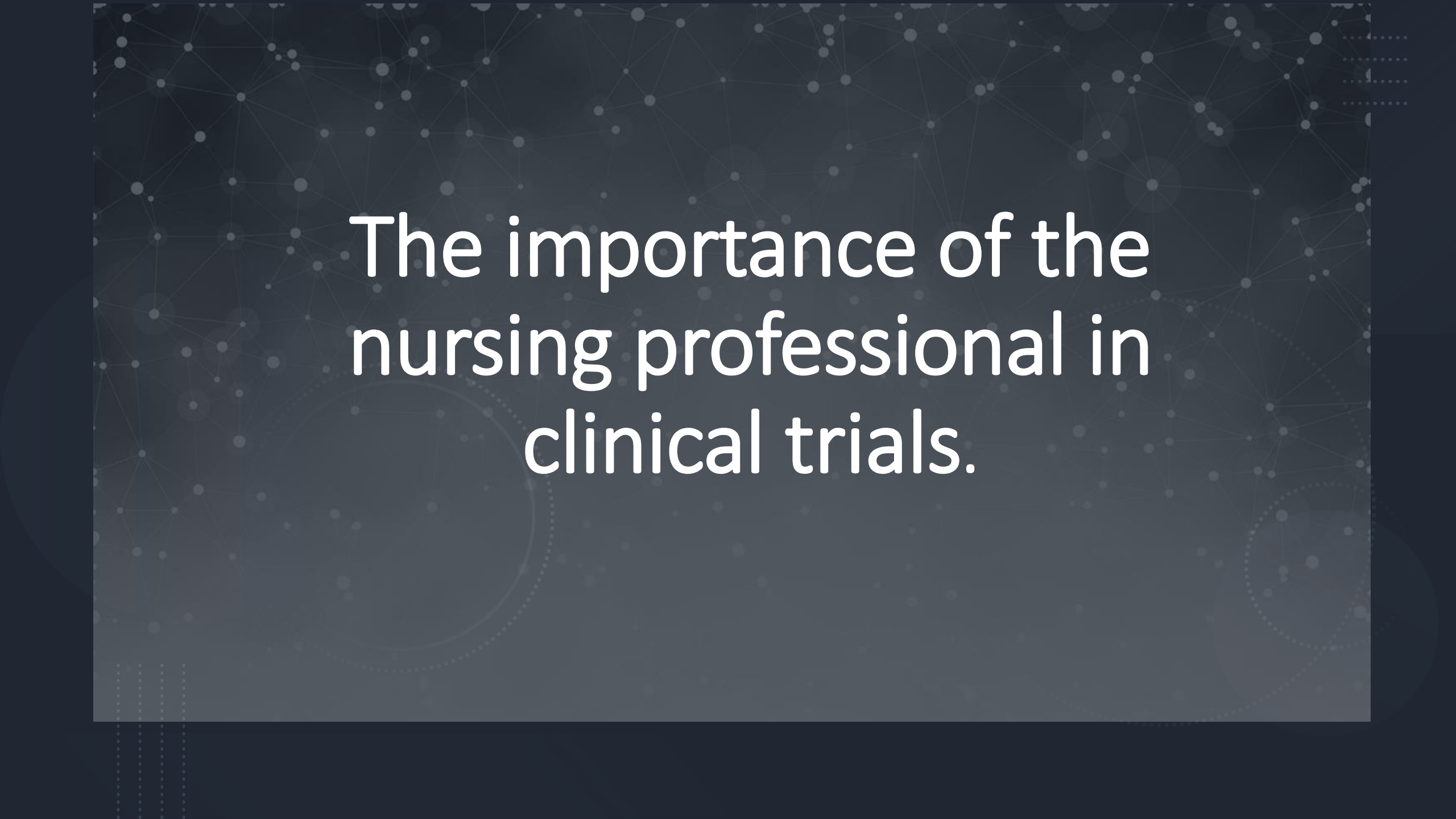
- There is an error or an incomplete definition of what an oncology nurse is.
- Most people think that an oncology nurse is limited to only working in a setting where they provide “cancer treatment”. In fact, many health professionals can have this misconception.
- This misconception limits the functions and competencies of a nursing professional capable of training to work with cancer at three levels of prevention.

Oncology Nursing Society



- Nursing specialty
- Seeks to reduce cancer risks, incidence, and burden by encouraging healthy lifestyles.
- Promotes early detection, improves the management of cancer symptoms and side effects throughout the disease trajectory.
- Advocates for people at risk for or with a diagnosis of cancer, coordinates care delivery, ensures the safe delivery of cancer treatments, helps manage symptoms, helps optimize quality of life, giving support to people with cancer and their caregivers.

Advocates for the unique needs of people with cancer and collaborates with the interprofessional team to improve outcomes and reduce the impact of cancer on people, families, communities, and populations.



The importance of the
nursing professional in
clinical trials.

The importance of the nursing professional in clinical trials

- We can divide the nursing staff into two large groups; the one who works as part of the research team and the one who works in treatment settings.
- Effective communication process is essential between these two groups.



The importance of the nursing professional in clinical trials

Nurse as a part of research team

- Collect information from nurses who work directly with the patient.
- Tabulate or categorize the clinical manifestations provided by the direct care nurse.

Nurse who works in treatment setting

- Increase enrollment.
- Assess symptoms and clinical manifestations presented by patients.
- Make sure to ask assertive and necessary questions to collect relevant information.
- Careful retention of the participant without violating their autonomy and voluntary participation.
- Clinical judgment to identify data not verbalized by the participant.
- Consistently encourage adherence to the trial treatment.

Nursing Role in Clinical Trials

- **I. Protocol Compliance**
- **II. Clinical Trials-Related Communication**
- **III. Informed Consent Process**
- **IV. Management of Clinical Trial Patients**
- **V. Documentation**
- **VI. Patient Recruitment**
- **VII. Ethical Issues**
- **VIII. Financial Implications**
- **IX. Professional Development**

Enrollment

Retention

Success

Compliance with ethical considerations and with the process approved in the research proposal.

Strategies to increase nursing participation in clinical trials

Train nursing staff.

Consistent program to support and follow – up on Nursing staff development.

Collaborative efforts agreements with higher education institutions and research institutes.

Research internships in Puerto Rico.

Appreciation of the ability to reach nursing staff.

Scope of nursing professionals in achieving objectives related to health.

- As a Conclusion...
 - More than 65 nursing schools in Puerto Rico (100 x 35).
 - More than 40,000 registered nurses in Puerto Rico.
 - Fully trained nurses capable of collaborating in the clinical trials process.
- But also...
 - Professionals whose nature is direct care for clients and the population, with a great capacity to intervene holistic in close follow-up and in obtaining more specific data from any client, patient, or sample participant in any of the phases of clinical trials.

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Muchas gracias...

