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**Week 1 Assignment**

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Computer science, cognitive science, nursing science, and information science are known as

the building blocks of nursing informatics. The decision-making job as a nurse

inspector/surveyor depends on the computer and the assessment skills of a nurse to identify

and select the most vulnerable patients for review. We do not know the patients prior to arrival

at the long- term care facility. Our first look at the patient is by looking at the Minimal Data Set

(MDS) and Brief Interview for Mental Status (BIMS) score.

Referring to the course video where the nurse is preparing to administer an antibiotic to her

patient, it was upsetting to see the nurse rely on the computer information for allergies and not

listen to her patient. Computer technology is nice to have but it does not have common sense

and the ability to assess, plan, evaluate, and respond to a new information probe. It is essential

to have the nurse use her skill set while using the computer to enhance her practice and care of

the patient. There are decision making support software programs which are becoming

available to help healthcare workers see outcomes in a trajectory in different situations, but

decisions are still in the hands of the healthcare worker at this time. “The ever- increasing

acuity and complexity of patient situations, coupled with the explosion of information in

healthcare, has fueled the development of decision support software embed in the electronic

health record. This software models the human and natural decision- making processes of

professionals in an artificial program. Such systems can help decision makers to consider the

consequences of different courses of action before implementing one of them.”.

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Nursing Informatics is beneficial for a nurse inspector/surveyor because the ability to store

information on many patients for years looking back is a lap top carry instead of hauling piles of

paperwork into and out of a facility. The disadvantage of having patient information stored on a

computer is the chance of computer programs not interfacing well or lack of knowledge by the

user might cost time in accessing needing information.

“The American Nurses Association, (ANA) defined nursing

informatics as the integration of nursing science, computer science, and information science to

manage and communicate data, information, knowledge, and wisdom in nursing practice.

This data approach to patient care enhances the clinical experience for healthcare providers and

patients.” ANA Nursing Resources Hub (2023).

Nursing informatics is a wonderful working resource for nurses and other healthcare

providers, however, it is essential that wisdom and judgement be included to provide safe,

patient centered care.

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