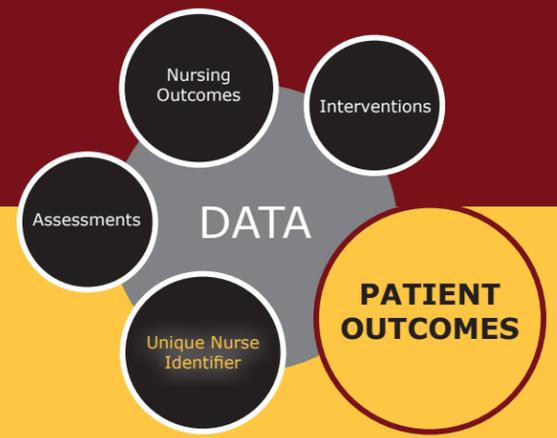


TOWARDS SHARABLE AND COMPARABLE NURSING DATA

Essentials and Implications of a Unique Nurse Identifier



A UNIQUE NURSE IDENTIFIER



IS BACKED BY POLICY

The Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science Policy and Advocacy Workgroup and the Alliance for Nursing Informatics (ANI) recommend the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) ID should be used by key stakeholders as a nurse identifier to help demonstrate the value of nursing through research, and enhance individual care and health outcomes via more comprehensive documentation in the EHR, ERP, and other technologies and systems.



LEVERAGES AN EXISTING UNIQUE ID

The NCSBN offers a free, unique identifier, publicly available, that is automatically generated, and maintained for each RN. Each NCSBN ID is available in the Nursys database comprising a suite of systems and databases containing nurse license and license discipline information by leveraging the identifier data provided by state licensure boards of nursing in the U.S. and its territories.



INCREASES NURSE VISIBILITY AND VALUE

Nursing's contribution to the health of individuals and communities is difficult to measure and often invisible partly due to the absence of a unique identifier for nurses. A unique nurse identifier enables examination of the variability of direct nursing care time and costs and the relationships between patient and nurse characteristics and costs.



DEMONSTRATES NURSING CONTRIBUTION

Nursing documentation in electronic health record (EHR), enterprise resource planning (ERP), and other health IT systems can demonstrate nursing's contribution in a value-based care model. The unique identifier can demonstrate the value and contributions of nursing care to improved patient outcomes.



ADVANCES SCHOLARSHIP

An identifier is essential to the aggregation, synthesis, and publication of data and research that better capture nursing processes to enable scientific inquiry for researchers to measure and quantify nursing care impact on health outcomes. Measurement of nursing's role in contributing to safe, effective healthcare practices and enhancing enterprise resource planning is possible with a unique nurse identifier.



IS GAINING ADOPTION

The Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science Policy and Advocacy Workgroup, established in 2013, identified the need for a unique nurse identifier. Since then, the workgroup has gained support from national nursing and medical associations, academia, societies, organizations, and government agencies, and multiple technology vendors for adoption of a unique nurse identifier.