

Neophyte Nurse to New Fellow: an Internationally Educated Nurse's Journey to Global Perioperative Practice

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INTRODUCTION



Like a cell that undergoes differentiation to acquire its specialization, a nurse goes through a process of growing as a specialist. Changes in the quality of global nursing education and clinical training along with other factors can make or break holistic progress especially in the highly demanding and constantly moving perioperative nursing arena.

SETTING

Globally, the need for nurses continuously skyrockets as healthcare demands rise. Internationally educated nurses are hired to support the growing global needs particularly in: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK, and the USA. Although there are many benefits, importing this valuable resource can be challenging. IENs must not only meet initial credentialing but also immigration requirements, health checks, and transition impeccably alone or with a family in tow.

PURPOSE

With the goal of paying forward through sharing, an internationally educated nurse (IEN) leader will take you on a unique neophyte to the new fellow success story of grace and grit in continuous motion. Successful global approaches to innovative leadership and creative education will be shared to highlight how true strategic collaborations propel acculturation and holistic excellence in IENs.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND



As an internationally educated and masters prepared nurse from the Philippines, my route to the global perioperative practice is atypical. See timeline below.

Career Timeline	Nursing Specialty
September 2005 - April 2006	Maternal and Child
May 2006 - June 2006	Emergency / Trauma
July 2006 - August 2006	Medical - Surgical
September 2006 - October 2008	Labor and Delivery + Perioperative
June 2006 - May 2011	Academe (Multispecialty + Research)
July 2011 - September 2013	Gerontology + Home Care
October 2013 - Present	Perioperative

DESCRIPTION OF THE TEAM



The multitude of transitions: nursing specialties, countries, workplace, and roles required a great mix of mentors from clinical, leadership, and academia. The combined power of highly supportive network of family and friends helped me keep the momentum of excellence. In addition, a fertile landscape of professional associations helped provide continuous meaningful projects that encouraged me to stay engaged while professionally contributing.

PREPARATION AND PLANNING

Three Es of Professional Development

Empower

- Be active in unit and hospital committees.
- Join professional organizations.

Enhance

- Earn your certification.
- Move up in your institution's career ladder.

Educate

- Finish short courses to aid role transition.
- Attend trainings / workshops fit for your role.
- Aim to get multiple CEUs monthly.
- Attend a national conference yearly.
- Pursue an advance degree in Nursing.

IMPLEMENTATION

"Refocus via Resilience and Self – Care."

"Our Shared Vision: Holistic Excellence in Motion"

"Our Shared Goal: Stability in Crisis Through Creative Education"

The key in implementing holistic growth is all about finding the right balance: fulfilling your why, finding the essence of lifelong learning, and collaborating to help elevate the future of humanity.

"Relive the power of Mentoring."

"Celebrate Collaborative Triumphs"

PERIOPERATIVE NURSING IMPLICATIONS

- Surviving the global professional landscape is not achieved through a solo sprint or marathon; one must be part of the relay to exquisitely thrive in the perioperative team sport.
- A holistic mentoring approach is a sustainable strategy in retaining the diverse IEN workforce.

OUTCOME



After ten years in Perioperative practice, I am honored to strategically advance the specialty as a new Fellow of the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses (FAORN). I pledge to continue to find joy by sharing my passion for perioperative care, neuroscience practice, innovative education, and professional development through evidence-based scholarly work presentations and publications. As a perioperative voice within neuroscience nursing, I am thrilled to support the growth of my highly reliable team as a new Perioperative Services Manager for Neurosurgery and Otolaryngology ORs at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

REFERENCES

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