



Advanced Clinical practice, An International perspective

My name is Malgorzata Pietras, I am originally from Poland. I moved to England 12 years ago. I am currently working as Advanced Clinical Practitioner in General Surgery, in UHCW in Coventry. I worked as Alcohol Liaison Nurse, as Staff Nurse in Gastroenterology Surgical ward, as Nurse in Charge in Nursing Home. I have gained extensive nursing and clinical 29 years experience to work with elderly, suffer from Dementia, surgical patients, mentally ill and alcohol dependent patients. It has been an interesting journey through all these years of my profession.

Nursing education in Poland are developing slowly but steadily in response to changing social needs and emerging healthcare issues. Nurses are trained regularly at the bachelor level based on a 3 year post high school education. Coursework is directed and approved by the Poland Ministry of Health and a post-graduation licensure exam is required to practice. Nurses have opportunities to obtain post bachelor graduate education in midwifery, pediatric, psychiatric, and additional opportunities. In particular, the immediate demand for more nurses is generating innovation in nursing education and encouraging Polish universities to graduate more nurses. Unfortunately, nursing wages remain low in regard to other professions, which only fuels the nursing shortage. Polish nurses are also facing staffing issues. At times, the nurse-patient ratio is 28 to 1.

I had started the first module of Advanced Clinical Practice course in September 2015. On Induction day, I felt 'foreign', stressed and no part of the group. I was aware about my knowledge and my limitations. I started panicking, I though is no way I will be able

to complete the study. I wanted to resign my contract. The words 'reflection, critical thinking' were strange to me. From the induction day to writing this piece I feel so much happen. I have feelings that the course gives me an opportunity to improve my current practice to the sophisticated holistic and patient centred approach, to understand difficulties and new challenges faced by nurses of all specialities. I will continue to increase the quality of patient care. I think that I am in right place and I am looking forward to my never ended journey in my learning, innovate and improving role as Advanced Clinical Practitioner.

Two days Conference -New trends in education and practice of health care workers, took place on 20-21.,10.2017 in my town, in Poland. The conference was addressed both to theorists (scientists) and practitioners: doctors, nurses, leaders, educators, security professionals. The main aim of the organizers was to debate the achievements in evidence-based health care in combination with professional practice. The conference was a place for broad discussion and exchange of experiences on the progress and application of practical achievements of science and practice from Poland and abroad. Starting in January 2016, the community of Polish nurses and midwives faced with a kind of revolutionary change connected with the right to recommend and prescribe certain medications, but It is still in progress and no courses to offer. The role of APNs as nurse specialists in Poland are not uniform according to specialty, but are based on the healthcare needs within the country for more urgent care and intensive management. APNs in Poland however do not have prescriptive authority, the chief barriers to advancing nursing practice in Poland is four-fold: medical association opposition, lack of government funding for new roles, legislation and methods of compensation for physician.