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**Roles and Responsibilities of Forensic Nurse**

**The Profession of Nursing**

Nursing is both an art and a science. Nurses play a crucial role in assisting individuals, whether they are sick or well, in performing activities necessary for their health or a peaceful death. This includes tasks that individuals would ensure on their own if they make sure the strength, will, or knowledge (Henderson, 1961).

**Forensics:** General view towards forensics is about dead people but truly searching the meaning of forensic is be relevant to commandment.

**Forensic Nursing:** Prosecution of Nursing with the commandment system.

As per the International Forensic Nurses Association, forensic nursing involves the intersection of the healthcare and legal systems. It is a scientific branch that combines nursing knowledge and practice to address issues deals with violence, abuse, criminal abuse, death and traumatic accidents along with criminal judicial system of a country.

The nursing core curriculum is intended to equip nurses with knowledge in somatic science and psychology, enabling them to provide holistic care for individuals experiencing physical or emotional distress. . It also focuses on addressing the needs of the families, public through education and the promotion of health and own safety. The curriculum is based on four fundamental skills:

1. Critical thinking
2. Decision-Making Skills
3. Problem-Resolving
4. Assessment
5. **Critical Thinking Skills**

Critical thinking is an essential skill for forensic nurses, allowing them to:

* Examine the gathered information
* Perform the ideas via principles
* Identify variances and resemblances between things or situations
* Practice consistent thought
* Design and expect significances
* Renovate understanding to action

 Critical thinking is assimilated into every aspect of the nursing core curriculum from didactic content to medical skills, research, patient care, and the development of forensic nursing skills. This ensures that forensic nurses are equipped to provide protection, justice, and restoration for victims, families and others who involved with victim.

1. **Decision Making Skills**

Developed at every level of core curricular stage; the nursing process serves as the main guiding principle; connects theoretical ideas and it can be compared with clinical valuation of patient information in in many different settings.

 **III Problem Resolving**

* Patient information collection is crucially needed to identify specific physical or emotional interruptions in the victims’ overall health.
* Assessment abilities develop over the course of the nursing program.
* Developed as main nursing tool for the professional nurse's critical thinking, judgement making, and problem resolving abilities.

**IV Assessment**

 The process of critical thinking starts with assessment:

* Evaluate the circumstances
* Determine the assignment (gathering evidence, changing clothes)
* Evaluate the results

**Roles of Forensic Nurses**

The Forensic Nurse may undergo some categories of specialization as a training programme in the following branches:

* Expertise in gathering forensic evidence
* illegitimate processes
* Expertise in legitimate testimony

sexual offense nurse inspector, legal nurse consultant, forensic mental nurse, forensic disciplinary nurse, forensic senior citizen nurse, nurse advocate, death detective personnel’s and forensic nurse instructor are some examples of specialty roles.

**Sexual offensive nurse Inspector**

A licensed registered nurse and who undergo specific training to give complete attention to sexual offensive victims as well as the ability to conduct a criminological and be a credible eyewitness.

Benefits

Complete care, reality grounded attestation (enlist all views), Criminological problem, proof gathering, sequence of safekeeping, witness box evidence

Compassionate care

Deliver public alertness, where should I go? How we will handle you, urge people to report sexual offense, promote the effective capture and execution of embarrassed law breakers assistance in spotting of dishonest recording and reporting.

**Nurse coroners/ Death investigator/Forensic nurse investigator**

The obligations are transmitted by agreement by a certified death investigator using enactment values, methodologies developed under the health auditors of loss exploring, and the power of authority to interpret, apply the law, norms of exercise.

Because of their educational background, nurses are able to accurately understand the causes of mortality and what happens to a body after death. While it is usually a medical incident, death can also be an unethical one. It is the responsibility of the law prosecution to determine who is at fault if it is beyond doubt that a felonious reason contributed to the death. Those in the medical field are more suited to ascertain the cause of death.

The circumstances surrounding the cause of death originated —natural, accidental, assassination, suicide, and undecided—are referred to as the mode of death

**Nurse Attorneys / Legal Nurse Consultants**

Must take the lead in developing policies pertaining to health precautions. To influence nursing education acts, health care regulations, and society policies pertaining to health precautions. To inform the public on matters pertaining to health law. To inform the people regarding nurse attorneys. To impart legal knowledge to nurses. To act as a public spokesperson or client advocate.

A major part of the fundamental change that nurses need to bring about in the way healthcare is delivered is realizing how important it is to adhere to regulations and be politically aware. Attorneys, like nurses, work with individuals who are weak, wounded, or traumatized, and who require support to become whole again. One of the skills that nurses bring to the table is client advocacy.

**Psychiatric and Mental Health Forensic Nurse: Issues and Goals**

The improvement of appropriate treatment for seriously and resolutely mentally ill patients. The co-treatment of obsessive and mental health issues. Methods for improving mental health and preventing mental illnesses. The provision of appropriate medical care inside the illegal justice system. The acceptable child and adolescent care centre.

Be cautious when gaining access to care for elderly individuals and members of marginalized communities. Advocacy for voluntary access to mental health resources on par with voluntary access to medical care. The development of a more evidence-based curriculum for teaching mental health nursing to nursing graduates and undergraduates.

**Correctional Health Nurse**

The field of counteractive healthcare is a departmental specialty. Objectives: In order to provide for the needs of the prisoners, expedite the development of a stronger working relationship between the correctional team and the private sector in jails and juvenile detention facilities. In the sphere of public health, support the provision of correctional healthcare.

Domestic Violence: Throughout the world, domestic violence is the leading source of injury to women. For expectant mothers, it is the primary non-obstetric cause of death. A woman gets abused every nine seconds. 1 in 3 women experience domestic abuse.

**Forms of Exploitation: Somatic, Emotional and Financial**

Beating, hit out and throttling are physical exploitation. Emotional exploitation such as Loneliness, emotional threats, and harm to one's sense of value recognition, and financial offense as follows monetary task, encroachment, and access to finances.

**Public Emphasis**

* Enhance the natural and child death investigations by collecting and evaluating more comprehensive histories.
* Make contact with family members to share details about the cause and manner of death.
* If applicable, talk about the medical and family ramifications of the cause of death.
* Educate people about the medico-legal death inquiry.

**Roles of the forensic nurse in emergency department**

* Reporting Suspected Abuse/Neglect

to report elder or vulnerable adult abuse or neglect. There are fewer states with laws requiring victims of crime or intimate partner abuse to notify the authorities immediately.

* Records as Proof

Under the medical exception to hearsay, nursing records on a patient's past may be accepted if they are pertinent to treating the patient's physical or mental health issues. The history of any injuries and pre-ED therapies should be recorded by the ED nurse. Noting any therapy delays is also important. The ED triage nurse would never contemplate listing "alleged chest pain" as the primary complaint if a patient came in complaining of chest discomfort. Change "alleged" and "claimed" to "reported" or "suspected."

* Collecting Evidence in the Emergency Department

ED nurses have a crucial duty to identify, gather, and preserve crucial forensic evidence because they are frequently the first people to interact with victims of assault. Mortuaries and autopsy centres can benefit greatly from the assistance and expertise of forensic nurses. It is noted that many underdeveloped nations lack skilled autopsy technicians and nurses to assist with post-mortem procedures. In the absence of this specialized assistance, medical officers are forced to rely on inexperienced, unskilled assistance, typically in the shape of sweepers. Here, it is illustrated how valuable forensic nurses—who possess extensive knowledge of the human body—can be in the autopsy rooms. The role of forensic nurses in various aspects of the forensic sciences, including their involvement in mortuary settings. Their unique skills and expertise are valuable in ensuring that the deceased are properly handled, and vital information is collected for legal and investigative purposes as follows:

1. Identification and Documentation: Forensic nurse’s contribution in the initial proof of identity of the affected personals brought to mortuary. They gather and document information such as personal belongings, clothing, and any distinguishing features or tattoos. This meticulous documentation is crucial for ensuring the correct identification of the deceased and for maintaining a clear chain of custody for evidentiary items.

2. Forensic Photography and Documentation: Forensic nurses are often responsible for photographing the deceased from multiple angles and close-ups of injuries, wounds, or any other significant physical characteristics. These images are used as crucial visual evidence in court cases, autopsies, and forensic investigations.

3. Assisting in Autopsies: In cases where autopsies are required, forensic nurses may assist forensic pathologists during the examination of the deceased. They help with the collection of tissue samples, document the findings, and maintain the integrity of evidence. Their medical background enables them to understand and communicate the significance of forensic findings effectively.

4. Injury Assessment: Forensic nurses are trained to assess and document injuries on the deceased accurately. They can help differentiate between injuries caused by trauma, accidents, or natural causes. Their expertise’s particularly valuable in cases of suspicious deaths or homicides, where injury assessment can provide critical information for investigations.

5. Chain of Custody Management: Keeping the evidence's chain of custody intact is essential in forensic investigations. Forensic nurses ensure that all collected evidence, including biological samples and personal belongings of the deceased, is properly documented, secured, and preserved to maintain its integrity for court proceedings.

6. Support for Families: The family of the deceased receive assistance and information from forensic nurses as well. They can explain the procedures and legal requirements, offer emotional support, and help families navigate the difficult process of identifying and claiming their loved one's remains.

**Role of Forensic Nurse in Mortuary**

Forensic nurses in the mortuary setting are essential team members who contribute their medical knowledge and forensic expertise to ensure the proper handling, documentation, and assessment of the deceased. Their role is critical not only in supporting forensic investigations but also in providing compassionate assistance to grieving families during a challenging time. Their attention to detail and commitment to maintaining the integrity of evidence are vital components of the forensic process, ultimately serving the interests of justice. Depending on the laws and criminal justice systems of the various nations, the role of forensic nurses may differ. In morgues and hospitals, forensic nurses can perform a range of tasks, including:

* They can accept the corpse with greater vigour while causing the least amount of harm to the accompanied individuals and families. Most of the time, they are faced with a catastrophic situation where their mother, father, sibling, friend, or sibling is dead in front of them. The emotional needs of friends and family who have been devastated by the victims' violent deaths can be attended to by them.
* All documents related to the inquiry, including request letters, are available for receipt by forensic nurses. In the event that the patient was admitted to the hospital, they can also obtain treatment files and documentation
* To accurately document all criteria, forensic nurses can make the necessary entries in the relevant registers of the morgue.
* They possess the ability to dissect a deceased person, and they will be a valuable resource for forensic doctors when their caseload grows. They ought to be aware of the I, Y, and modified Y incisions used for body dissection, as well as the reasoning behind them.
* They should be familiar with all four dissection techniques: the Letulle technique, which removes the entire body's organs in one block; the Virchow technique, which removes each organ separately; the Rokitan sky technique, which removes the organs in situ; and the Technique of Ghon, which performs en bloc dissection for the Urogenital system, the abdomen's organs, and the neck and thorax.
* The collecting of biological evidence, particularly tissue and blood samples, can be aided by forensic nurses. They can also preserve the case's clothing because, frequently, these contain important bits of evidence in the shape of tears, scars, or holes, as well as blood or seminal stains. In addition to the holes produced by gunshots and pallets, the presence of soot or burns is significant in cases of firearm injuries.
* When poisoning or suspected poisoning occurs. The correct packing, sealing, labelling, and preservation of the viscera, as well as the labelling of the packs holding the viscera, can be assisted by forensic nurses. Typically, preservation is carried out in a saturated solution of common salt; however, pure alcohol is sometimes occasionally used.
* Additionally, it might be necessary to preserve the viscera in the event that a disease, such as tuberculosis or myocardial infarction, is suspected. Here, a 10% formalin solution is typically used as the preservative.
* When sample collection for DNA profiling is required, they can ensure correct sample collection to prevent contamination. Usually, an FTA card or a piece of fabric with a dried blood stain applied to it is used. Depending on the tissue to be kept, there are appropriate ways to preserve different tissues.
* Forensic nurses in mortuaries are capable of taking pictures of injuries and learning how to record videos when needed, particularly in cases of dowry and custodial deaths.
* Forensic nurses can assist in the reconstruction or reconstitution of the body, particularly the face, if it is disfigured. The fact that the body is in a presentable state will provide the friends and family with much-needed comfort.
* After a post-mortem examination, forensic nurses are capable to appropriately dressing the body in accordance with the needs and traditions of the family and the community. They can use minimal facial makeup to improve the appearance.
* As required by national law and society, forensic nurses are capable of transferring a body in a dignified manner. The most crucial stage in handling death with dignity is this one.
* They can properly turn over the body, post-mortem findings, and any samples and items to the police upon proper receipt in order to maintain an appropriate chain of evidence.
* When necessary, forensic nurses can handle the correct handling of deceased bodies at mortuaries, monitoring their body temperature prior to placing them in cool rooms or chambers. It is crucial to maintain the proper temperature in cold rooms and chambers to prevent the decomposition of deceased bodies.
* To prevent accidents and infections, forensic nurses can handle the dissection tools' cleaning, sterilization, and maintenance.
* The morgues can be cleaned and sanitized by forensic nurses. The procedures that could spread illness can be handled by forensic nurses, and they
* By separating the waste into the appropriate containers, forensic nurses can assist with the correct disposal of biological waste both during and after the post-mortem examination.
* Considering that they have seen violent fatalities in the past, forensic nurses can be quite helpful in mass disaster circumstances. When there is a crisis in the community or following a major disaster, they are typically highly helpful. They can assist in identifying the deceased bodies here.
* The justice system will benefit from forensic nurses' enhanced ability to handle violent circumstances with compassion and gather evidence during post-mortem examinations.

[**Role of a**](https://www.slideshare.net/KannadigaNammaKarnataka/role-of-nurse-in-forensic-nursingpptx#34) **nurse in admission and discharge of forensic victim**

* Upon receiving a patient from the outpatient department, promptly notify the on-call physician of that unit.
* To avoid legal problems, all patient records, including admission files and OPD slips, must be kept confidential.
* To keep the patient records private.
* Not to provide police officers with access to the patient records.
* It is forbidden to dispose of patient discharges without a doctor's approval. The nurse is in charge of the patient's things.
* Obtain the agreement of patients or relatives before beginning any form of procedure or therapy.
* Steer clear of responding to questions from insurance agents and other unapproved individuals.
* It is recommended to communicate the patient's situation orally to family members.
* Ensure that all patient records are kept up to date.

**[Discharge](https://www.slideshare.net/KannadigaNammaKarnataka/role-of-nurse-in-forensic-nursingpptx%22%20%5Cl%20%2236)**

* Upon release, no documents ought to be given to law enforcement.
* If the patient is moved to a different ward or hospital, please enter clearly.
* The nurse must explicitly enter or write the name of the patient's family before permitting the patient to leave the hospital.
* After the patient is discharged, all patient records should be kept confidential.

[**Responsibility of forensic nurse in**](https://www.slideshare.net/KannadigaNammaKarnataka/role-of-nurse-in-forensic-nursingpptx#37) **decease examination**

* Criminality section enquiry.
* Somatic inspection
* Proof of identity of injuries, lesions
* Abrasion
* Scratches
* Graze
* Pressure abrasion
* Pattern abrasion
* Contusion
* Laceration
* Avulsion
* Stab wounds

[**Post mortem changes**](https://www.slideshare.net/KannadigaNammaKarnataka/role-of-nurse-in-forensic-nursingpptx#38)

* Pallor mortis
* Body become cold after death
* Hypostasis followed by purple discoloration in lower extremities
* Post mortem rigidity
* Rare form of muscular spasm after post mortem
* Putrefaction ( decomposition) 

[**Responsibility of Forensic nurse**](https://www.slideshare.net/KannadigaNammaKarnataka/role-of-nurse-in-forensic-nursingpptx#39) **to identify victims of disasters**

The following distinguishing characteristics can be used to identify the victim.

* Scars and tattoos.
* Proof of previous bone fractures or surgical marks.
* Unusual deviation.
* Estimate age, race, sex, and build.
* Personal effects (jewellery, clothes, shoes, etc.).
* Strategies for superimposition.
* Fingerprint identification is a potential method for identifying unidentified deceased bodies.
* The joint should be bent repeatedly until it becomes flexible if the fingers are stiff.
* After that, the tips of the fingers are inked with printing ink and a roller so that prints can be made on the card. For best effects, roll the card around your fingers rather than rolling it directly on victim finger.

**Responsibilities of forensic nurse in psychiatry, assessment and evaluation of emotional status**

The course of the case will be determined by the actions taken by the nurse when the patient arrives at the medical facility and the nurse has reason to believe that there may be emotional dysfunction. As with every patient entering the setting, assessment should start at the outset. The patient may look (i.e., how they dress, maintain good hygiene, make eye contact, adjust their posture, and communicate)

* Medicinal history
* Instructive background
* Professional history
* Mental health history
* Substance misuse history
* Noting any past or present reference of legal difficulties

The fact that the nurse is working in a clinical setting where access to psychiatric expertise is limited and that the patient's physical health issues take precedence may be contributing factors in these situations.

If this is the case, then it is critical that the clinician records what they see. Adverse attitudes toward psychiatric patients can hinder a nurse's ability to assess and manage this vulnerable population and can even negatively impact the patient's care. These are frequently difficult cases, so educating patients about the complexities of care is essential to maximizing positive outcomes and minimizing harm to the patient. If the clinician can assess the patient's needs, even though the patient may be exhibiting nebulous or nonspecific symptoms, then the clinician may in fact be able to determine whether the patient's physical illness is exacerbating the psychiatric symptoms. Is the patient under the influence of drugs or alcohol need to be assessed.

**Documenting mental health**

The procedure of observation and interviewing needs to be as impartial and thorough as feasible. All observations of the patient and discussions with them should be meticulously recorded, and any judgments or inferences ought to be grounded solely in the information at hand. Legal inferences ought to be avoided. The nurse's job is to deliver objective facts, not to make judgments on the forensic aspects of a case. When recording, speak to the patient directly, avoid paraphrasing, use simple language, and allow them plenty of opportunity to respond. Meet with them in a private, calm environment where they feel comfortable and safe. Describe what you're doing in detail. Never touch them without their consent.

**Competency/insanity**

When someone commits a criminal offense, their capacity to distinguish between good and bad is referred to as insane by the law. An expert in forensic medicine makes the determination of insanity. In the context of a general clinical situation, a nurse might not be aware of how important it is to assess a patient's competency. Nonetheless, the ultimate assessment of the patient's competency may be directly impacted by the documentation made by the nurse. The documentation made by the advanced practice forensic psychiatric nurse in any situation where the patient presented may be relevant to that patient's legal case and subsequently utilized as documentation by the legal team, even if the nurse is qualified to work with the legal team while conducting a competence examination.

 A nurse should thus always be aware of the significance of objective documentation. The nurse is not in a position to determine if the patient is the offender or the victim. A thorough interview, clinical data, and any other pertinent facts are used by the clinician who is ready to assess competency to make an informed conclusion.

**Expanded Roles of Forensic Nurse**

* At the end of 2002, the Commissioners Court approved three seats.
* Increase nursing coverage to include the evening and night shift. Assist in reviewing organ/tissue procurement recovery requests with the pathologist.
* Assist in investigating infant and child death scenes and natural deaths. Assist in case management for infant and child deaths. Respond to scenes and take reports. Conduct forensic gynaecological examinations and gather evidence.
* Community education. Forensic psychiatric or mental health nurses handle victims' and offenders' mental health issues.
* The forensic mental health nurse evaluates the following: the offender's capacity to express their intent, their risk of violence and recidivism, and their suitability for trial. She also prepares and files official court reports, testifies as an expert and fact witness, consults with legal professionals and law enforcement officers, and offers therapy.
* When caring for offenders, nurses in non-forensic mental health settings can apply their understanding of these duties and responsibilities.
* Using their training, forensic mental health nurses assist in the rehabilitation of criminal offenders, evaluate the welfare of victims of crime, and provide knowledgeable consultations for judicial processes. They most frequently work for law enforcement organizations and in establishments like juvenile detention centers, mental institutions, and prisons. The medical team frequently has to deal with personality problems that are prevalent among criminals, worries about safety and violence, and factious disorders in people who try to claim mental illness in order to get out of jail or avoid legal repercussions.
* Nurses participate in the implementation of many medical procedures (pressure measurement, injections, wound healing) and actively participate in providing nursing care in all areas of medicine. The job of a nurse is such that it always has to be extremely careful and every patient needs to be approached with due respect. Patients suffering from a psychiatric disorder or having some mental illness require special treatment because they are people who, because of their psychophysical condition, commit criminal acts.
* The Nurses do a variety of tasks, such as participating in the expert witnessing process in addition to treating patients holistically. Due to the intricacy of the work and the presumption that the nurse in this profile has solid knowledge of medical specialties relevant to resolving particular court cases, the nurse should possess a thorough understanding of criminal law specialties, particularly criminal law, criminal procedural law, criminalistics,.
* Their unique skill set and training enable them to offer comprehensive care, collect forensic evidence, and support both the medical and legal aspects of cases.
* Patient Care and Assessment: Forensic nurses in the emergency wing are responsible for assessing and treating the victim with sickness. They provide compassionate care while assessing and addressing the physical and psychological needs of the patient. This may include immediate medical interventions, such as wound care, crisis counselling, and emotional support.
* Forensic Proof Gathering: The cardinal responsibility of nurses is collection of forensic evidence. They carefully and systematically collect and preserve physical evidence, such as clothing, swabs, and photographs of injuries. This evidence is crucial for potential legal proceedings and can help in identifying perpetrators and corroborating victim statements.
* Documentation: Forensic nurses are meticulous in documenting their findings, observations, and interactions with the patient. Accurate and detailed documentation is essential for maintaining a clear and objective record of the patient's condition, injuries, and any statements made by the patient. This records can be utilised in court of law as data.
* Chain of Custody Management: Sustaining the evidence's chain of custody is essential to guaranteeing its admissibility in court. Forensic nurses are responsible for properly labelling, packaging, and securing all evidence to preserve its integrity and credibility throughout the legal process.
* Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Forensic nurses work closely with other healthcare professionals, law enforcement, social workers, and legal professionals. They serve as a bridge between the medical and legal systems, facilitating communication and cooperation among different agencies to ensure a comprehensive response to the patient's needs.
* Support and Advocacy: Beyond their clinical and forensic roles, forensic nurses often serve as advocates for their patients. They help patients navigate the complex healthcare and legal systems, provide evident data regarding accessible materials, sustenance facilities, and ensure that patient's rights are respected throughout the process.
* Forensic nurses in the emergency wing of a hospital are vital healthcare professionals who provide assistance to violence. Their multifaceted role encompasses patient care, forensic evidence collection, documentation, chain of custody management, interdisciplinary collaboration, and advocacy. Their dedication to addressing the physical and emotional needs of survivors while ensuring the integrity of evidence is crucial in facilitating both healing and justice for patients affected by violence or abuse.

**Role of forensic nurse in various areas**

Sexual abuse of children is a severe issue that can have a lifetime impact on the victims' physical and/or psychological health. The first people to help victims of sexual abuse are forensic nurses. Forensic nurses are leaders in the community when it comes to child sexual abuse because they possess a more thorough understanding of who is abusing children sexually. By exchanging information on sexual abuse perpetration, educators, other healthcare professionals, and community people can better comprehend the complexities of child sexual abuse.

Additionally, forensic nurses are in a unique position to push for legislative and political changes at the local, state, and federal levels to better protect children from sexual abuse. This includes pushing for treatment programs for sexual offenders to lower recidivism rates. A child's examination is predicated on the idea of "do no harm." It is imperative for a forensic nurse to take into account the child's developmental stage in addition to their age. Consciously sedated patients are never recommended, nor should children ever be confined. A kid may occasionally need to be evaluated under anaesthesia for certain conditions, such as vaginal haemorrhage or a serious anogenital lesion. Collaboratively, the health care team must approach the youngster for an examination. Here are some pointers:

* Tell the child that they can raise their hand to end the test at any time. The toddler might feel in control and safe with this gesture.
* As you examine the child's physical state, get them involved in play.
* Burns, bruising, and other injuries are readily apparent, but identifying the exact mechanism causing the damage may be challenging.
* Take as much documentation as you can about the injury; this can include radiography if you suspect fractured bones, the child's or caregiver's history, and objective data, which is what you see, feel, smell, and hear.

The youngster should be shown in full or in an overview in the first picture, in the middle or in a specified location in the second, and in close-up in the third. You can take more than three pictures; if you're using a digital camera, make sure the images are clear and take as many as you need. Additionally, you ought to measure the damage with the appropriate instrument. In the event that the picture scale is unavailable, you can utilize a ruler or other object whose size is unquestionable. Congratulate the youngster for opening up and sharing their thoughts, and let them know you are here to support them. Trauma-informed care should be the form of that assistance.

 It's crucial to let the caregiver who isn't assaulting the child know that the law requires you to file a report on their behalf (note: this report is filed on behalf of a child, not against an abuser). You should gather the bare minimum of information about the incident—who, what, when, and where—but you don't want to speak with the child. For instance, inquiries like "Who did that? What took place? In what location did this occur? When did this occur? What is causing you pain? Can aid in your comprehension of the child's experiences, but limit your questioning to that which is required to direct the child's medical examination. It is best to leave the specifics of the occurrence to the police or a forensic interviewer who specializes in speaking with concerned victim.

Interviewers for forensic cases are taught to assist minors in sharing information. Be encouraging and non-judgmental when a parent comes to you for a report. The local child services agency will be notified using this information. Does the parent have assistance? Does the parent currently need crisis intervention or mental health services? The youngster should also be referred for an assessment to a medical professional, ideally one who specializes in the evaluation of abused children.

**Care providers**

Several experts were brought onto the healthcare team as a result of the widespread occurrence of child abuse and the requirement for knowledgeable, evidence-based treatment. Among those specialists are: Sexual assault, one of the first medical professionals to see a kid after they have reported abuse is a nurse examiner, or sanes. These nurses offer skilled, developmentally appropriate care as well as forensic examinations that involve taking pictures, gathering evidence, and offering children emotional support. These positions are filled by nurses, nurse practitioners, and midwives. School nurses are well positioned to care for these kids. Being with these kids for the majority of the day, a school nurse might be the first person a youngster confides in.

* + - The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) advocates for the prompt identification and intervention of children who are subjected to abuse. School nurses can help these children by evaluating, reporting, and sending them to the right authorities for intervention and treatment. They can also spot early indicators of abuse (NASN, 2014).

**Roles and Responsibilities of Forensic Nurse in crime scene**

* Evaluation of the affected party.
* Assistance for the affected parties.
* Taking care of the immediate issue.
* Attending to the related morbidities.
* Gathering of evidence. Evidence distribution and preservation of Records.
* Taking care of the living. Taking care of friends and family.
* Preventing criminal activity.
* The promotion of victims' and survivors' rights.
* Research and Epidemiology.
* **See the crime scene**: This will provide forensic nurses with firsthand knowledge and an evaluation. In addition to being able to view the crime scene, forensic nurses will be familiar with the crime's past. This will provide a more thorough investigation of the crime scene and the victims, enabling better comprehensive forensic nursing care to be given to the survivors and victims.
* **Victim assessment:** First, forensic nurses can evaluate individuals who have experienced violence. Medical and legal backgrounds are obtained, and both aspects can be attended to.
* **Support for the victims:** Following the initial evaluation, first aid can be administered immediately at the crime scene and the victims can then be referred to the proper institution, saving crucial time that could otherwise be spent trying to save the lives of the injured or handicapped. Taking care of the current issue entails providing medical attention for the injuries as well as social and psychological support.
* **Physical care of the injuries:** Both the hospital emergency rooms and the crime scene can provide physical care for the injuries. While tending to the injuries, forensic nurses will make sure that no evidence is compromised or lost in the process. A study conducted in the United States among individuals aged 1-44 Violence-related injuries are among the leading causes of death and disability. Ninety percent of the emergency patients were seen by a nurse, and one-third of the patients had injuries. The significance of forensic nursing in emergency rooms is demonstrated by this data. Comprehensive forensic nursing care also includes preventing the consequences of the crime, such as helping victims avoid unintended pregnancies, treating and preventing STDs following sexual assaults, and shielding victims from future contact with their attackers.
* **Psychological care:** During and during the crisis hours, forensic nurses can offer excellent psychological support to victims and survivors who frequently have psychological disturbances. Because of mental illness and extremely dangerous patients, forensic nurses typically evaluate violent offenders found not guilty as part of a team. Armed with forensic education, nurses feel more comfortable managing these patients and can therefore give them better treatment. Screening and assessing survivors for the need for assistance should be frequent because common attire violence causes anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder, which worsen with repeated incidents, especially when the victim is powerless to stop them. It should be recognized that the psychological cause of the 10 physical symptoms also exists. Providing attire care kits to victims is a great way to help with the ten directions of comprehensive care. In certain cases, victims may need their clothing and personal belongings taken as evidence, and in these cases, kits containing clothing and other everyday necessities will be of great assistance to them.
* **Social care:** After being victimized, people don't have to go through everything alone. Forensic nurses can offer consolation and support in these circumstances and serve as a bridge between many organizations to assist the victims and their families in completing all the procedures later the illegal occurrences.

During these trying times, forensic nurses can also assist victims in communicating with their loved ones. Funds are required for both therapy and managing the morbidity brought on by violence. In order to deal with the aftermath of violence, survivors frequently turn to perpetrators for financial support. Without this financial assistance, victims will not be able to survive and pursue legal action against the offenders. In such cases, they can direct the victims to NGOs and other services. Certain crimes carry stigmas, thus it's important to remind victims that the perpetrators bear full responsibility for their actions and that they shouldn't be embarrassed of the Incidents.

* **Care of the associated morbidities:** Individuals who have experienced violence may already be afflicted with pre-existing medical conditions. In these cases, the course of treatment for various illnesses may be halted. In order to prevent emergencies during these instances, forensic nurses can aid by learning about the history of these disorders and by treating them promptly.
* **Evidence collection:**

A clinical forensic nurse tends to the needs of live individuals and can assist in gathering both tangible and intangible evidence. In these situations, clinical forensic nurses will raise the standard of treatment.

 **Evidence preservation & dispatch of evidence:** If evidence is not properly preserved, it may lose its strength. Depending on the sort of evidence, evidence can be maintained. They could be extremely helpful in labelling, packaging, and shipping this evidence.

* **Documentation:** Documentation is a crucial phase that forensic nurses are trained to document when they watch, gather, and intervene in a given scenario. Another crucial component is photo documentation, which forensic nurses may also use. In order to give the victims complete forensic nursing treatment, it will be crucial to document every step of the process. Through a decrease in crime, this will enhance people's lives by assisting the victims in receiving justice.
* **Care of the survivors**: Taking care of the living: Care categories: A variety of environments can be used to deliver comprehensive treatment. In the majority of cases forensic nurses handle, compassionate treatment is crucial.

**Hospital care:** Complete care can be given in hospital settings by forensic nursing professionals. Hospitalists who provide forensic nursing are called such. They typically collaborate with the medical officers or medical examiners while working in the hospital's emergency department.

**Community settings care:** When forensic nursing services are rendered in these types of settings, particular attention needs to be paid to the surroundings and how the work will impact them. Hospitals typically have systems in place to produce the least amount of environmental pollution possible. Even when remarks are made in public, they should always be supported by facts and never overstated. It's also important to consider the communities' sensitivities.

**Care of victims and survivors:** People who have experienced violence require a distinct kind of care. In order to handle their cases, victims and survivors must first evaluate what needs to be done and then create a plan for doing so.

**Short-term and long-term effects of the violence:** Victims of violence experience both acute and long-term consequences. When a patient is discharged from the hospital, the forensic nurse must continue to care for them until they require more assistance or support.

* **Care of family members and friends:** When coordinating amongst law enforcement, non-governmental groups, patients, and their families, the forensic nurse can play a crucial role in the team. Because they have excellent communication skills, forensic nurses can help family members who are scared and frightened by calming them down and offering the necessary assistance. If necessary, they can also offer psychiatric counselling to the family members. Friends may accompany victims in certain situations, and when friends become victims, they also experience anguish. At that point, they too require treatment, and forensic nurses are qualified to offer it. Forensic nurses should be able to collaborate with a variety of governmental and non-governmental groups to provide comprehensive care.
* **Prevention of violence & crimes:** When it comes to preventing violence, forensic nurses can be quite important. In forensic nursing, this is an issue that has not received enough attention. Governments and communities will save a great deal of money by preventing interpersonal violence. From the primary to the tertiary levels, prevention can be practiced at every stage. One stunning example is when rescuers come to the aid of drowning victims and upstream there's a bridge with holes in it and no warning signs. Many lives could have been saved there had some preventative action been done. Since the criminal court system does not perform much preventive work, similar measures can be taken in other circumstances, even by forensic nurses.
* **Advocacy of the survivors:** part from the other 13 duties, forensic nurses can also serve as effective advocates for victims and survivors. Typically, forensic nurses work on cases involving asylum seekers in the United States who are concerned about facing legal action back home. Similar to how they can support the cause of crime victims in other circumstances, forensic nurses can be effective advocates for these 17 victims.
* **Epidemiology and Research:** To establish the evidence-based nature of our approach, research is necessary. This evidence must be generated to provide complete forensic nursing care to victims, survivors, and their families. In order to determine the incidence of crime in a certain area of our nation and to determine the appropriate level of funding and support that should be provided, we also need to understand the epidemiology of different types of crimes. An excellent resource for the epidemiology of the many crimes reported in India is the National Crime Record Bureau.
* **Other issues:** forensic nurses can handle include victim advocacy and upholding the rights of both victims and criminals.

A crucial part in humanitarian forensics can be played by forensic nurses. They are professionals in assisting victims and their families, thus they can be vital in documentation and psychological support. Even the team members can receive psychological support from them. They can assist in stopping the spread of epidemics and handle forensic matters when several epidemic-related deaths occur. They can cover the void in humanitarian forensic work when there is a scarcity of forensic physicians. Whether a disaster is natural or man-made, they can play an ideal part in it.

After more study and advancement in this field, forensic nurses will be able to make a substantial contribution to humanitarian forensics. Humanitarian forensic teams ought to include forensic nurses. Forensic nurses who aspire to work in humanitarian forensics should have an optimal mindset, as suboptimal mindsets will not yield the intended success rates. Effective communication abilities are essential for forensic nurses to succeed in humanitarian forensic work.

In numerous ways, forensic nurses contribute to the death investigation:

* They support the investigation teams by carefully planning, visiting the crime scene, and watching and assessing the crime scene. They combine their nursing education with criminology, law, and forensic medicine.
	+ - A forensic nurse death investigator could be the best option in cases when a trained forensic physician is unavailable; forensic nurses are employed in numerous US counties.
		- To carry out this function, they have been assigned the roles of nurse investigator, deputy coroner, coroner, and coroner. Forensic nurses play a crucial role in humanitarian forensic work and are employed in mass catastrophes and community crisis situations.
		- Professional Certificates in Nurse Death Investigation are available through online courses. It is crucial for the case that the nurses understand how to gather evidence at the crime site and preserve it.
		- They are also taught to take pictures of the crime scene and the documentation process.
		- In addition, they receive instruction on dissecting a deceased person's corpse and learning how to identify the deceased.
		- In addition, they learn how to recognize the many indicators of death and what to do with the time that passes after a death.
		- When working in substance user services, forensic nurses' attitudes have an impact on their intervention, optimism, and ability to function without conforming to stereotypes. This may also be true for forensic nurses engaged in humanitarian forensic work.
		- Effective and exceptional writing and verbal communication skills are essential for forensic nurses to succeed while interacting with victims, criminals, law enforcement officials, and other team members.
		- Good communication skills can effectively address issues between victim advocates and violence survivors and the team members. Advocates typically use indirect language, while forensic nurses typically use direct language.
* **At the crime scene:** When police arrive, forensic nurses can assist them in managing the deceased and keep track of any leftover evidence. During the transfer of the deceased, he or she can act as a forensic pathologist representative by covering their hands with envelopes to prevent any evidence from falling.
* **In Trauma Cases:** A female nurse might be especially helpful if the victim is a female. They can be witnesses to the entire process and assist in recording injuries and gathering traces of evidence.
* **In Poisoning Cases:** Can maintain accurate records of indications, symptoms, and treatment in cases of poisoning. Gastric lavage, urine, and any other specimen—such as stools, spit, and clothes stained with the aforementioned materials—can all be preserved by forensic nurses.
* **Sexual assault cases:** A female nurse can establish a stronger rapport with the patient and provide her with comfort and consolation. She can assist the victim in getting a proper examination and in cooperating with the prosecution so that the offender can face justice. She is able to assist with collecting and storing samples.
* **Social Forensic Nursing:** Women who have experienced abuse may be able to elicit a more detailed history from their battered spouses and children, and they may be able to detect minor injuries that a busy doctor might overlook. The prevention of dowry fatalities and the deaths of abused children will ultimately depend on the early detection of such occurrences.
* **Human rights violations:** When a forensic physician is dealing with a female victim, forensic nurses can be of great assistance.
* **Criminal abortions:** The forensic nurses are typically the first to interact with these patients and will counsel women to report such situations and appropriately gather evidence.
* **Forensic pathology:** In addition to receiving dead bodies and pertinent documents, forensic pathology can assist forensic pathologists with dissection, gathering traces of evidence, preserving biological and other samples, record-keeping, dealing with relatives, and informing them of legal requirements and procedures.

Forensic nurses can be very helpful in a variety of other situations and locations; this is by no means an exhaustive list. We must first be willing to embrace their function and responsibilities before introducing it to areas of concern so that people would understand the tremendous assistance that forensic nurses are providing.

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