

NR548 Week 1 Collaboration Cafe

Select an issue or trend that impacts psychiatric mental health practice. Examples include ethical issues, mental health treatment disparities, substance abuse, recovery, or wellness issues.

One issue that has a drastic impact on psychiatric mental health practice is substance use. Substance Use Disorder (SUD) affects people of all ages, genders, races, and nationalities. Substance use can be defined as the use of alcohol, cannabis, or use of any other illegal substance that becomes problematic and takes over one's life. The 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health survey data indicated that 7.8% of Americans 12 years of age and older had substance use disorders, and 3.4% of those had comorbid mental illness and substance use disorder (Beeber, 2018).

1. Select one of the phenomena of concern for psychiatric mental health nurses as described by the American Nurses Association et al. (2022) text on pp. 4-5.

One of the phenomena of concern for psychiatric mental health nurses as described by the American Nurses Association et al. (2022) is Elimination of stigma for those living with a psychiatric/substance use disorder or a mental health issue. Stigma is defined as a powerful social process characterized by labeling, stereotyping, and separation leading to status loss and discrimination (Nyblade et al., 2019). It is important for mental health nurses to be sensitive and treat patients with dignity and respect to help eliminate stigma related to mental illness and substance use disorder. Stigma towards a person living with a specific disease undermines access to diagnosis and treatment which can lead to poor health outcomes (Nyblade et al., 2019).

References:

American Nurses Association, American Psychiatric Nurses Association, & International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses. (2022). Psychiatric-mental health nursing: Scope and standards of practice (3rd ed.). American Nurses Association.

Beeber, L. S. (2018). Mental Health Issues and Substance Use in the United States: Pulling the Power Levers. *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association*.
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