



## NEWS RELEASE

### Nursing is a rewarding and respectable career

**20 July 2005, Singapore** -The image of a nurse is usually associated with 'helping people to get well, white uniform and a lady'. Many young children have dreamt to be a nurse when they grow up.

"Twenty years later, I am happy with the decision I made, and I have had wonderful, fulfilling career opportunities... Now at 38-years-of-age, I am comfortable and proud stating my profession." Dan Gorman, RN, MSN, is nurse manager in the hematology/oncology unit of Winchester Hospital, Winchester, MA. [Source: Nursing Spectrum]

"It really is about respect. I'm proud to be a nurse and I am sure that other nurses feel the same. I went into nursing because I wanted the opportunity to make a difference in people's lives. I enjoy caring for people and nursing was the best way for me to have the chance to do so. I am truly honored that God allowed me to fulfill my calling as a nurse and I strongly encourage others to do so as well. Nursing is a respectable career and the excitement of nursing is never-ending. My favorite moment in nursing is seeing my patients improve and reach a level of wellness. It always warms my heart to hear someone say "thank you" at the end of a long shift or after a long, extended stay." Tara Long, Ironton, Ohio [Source: <http://www.nursingrewards.org>]

#### **The variety of professional advancement for Nurses**

A career in nursing offers variety and tremendous opportunity for personal satisfaction and professional advancement. Below are some of the varied opportunities within the field of nursing.

##### Registered Nurse

Registered nurses work to promote health, prevent disease, and help patients cope with illness. They are advocates and health educators for patients, families, and communities. When providing direct patient care, they observe, assess, and record symptoms, reactions, and progress; assist physicians during treatments and examinations; administer medications; and assist in convalescence and rehabilitation. RNs also develop and manage nursing care plans, instruct patients and their families in proper care, and help individuals and groups take steps to improve or maintain their health. While State laws govern the tasks that RNs may perform, it is usually the work setting that determines their daily job duties.

##### Hospital Nurse

Hospital nurses form the largest group of nurses. Most are staff nurses, who provide bedside nursing care and carry out medical regimens. They also may supervise licensed practical nurses and nursing aides. Hospital nurses usually are assigned to one area, such as surgery, maternity, pediatrics, emergency room, intensive care, or treatment of cancer patients. Some may rotate among departments.



### Office Nurse

Office nurses care for outpatients in physicians' offices, clinics, surgicenters, and emergency medical centers. They prepare patients for and assist with examinations, administer injections and medications, dress wounds and incisions, assist with minor surgery, and maintain records. Some also perform routine laboratory and office work.

### Nursing Home Nurse

Nursing home nurses manage nursing care for residents with conditions ranging from a fracture to Alzheimer's disease. Although they often spend much of their time on administrative and supervisory tasks, RNs also assess residents' health condition, develop treatment plans, supervise licensed practical nurses and nursing aides, and perform difficult procedures such as starting intravenous fluids. They also work in specialty-care departments, such as long-term rehabilitation units for patients with strokes and head-injuries.

### Home Health Nurse

Home health nurses provide periodic services to patients at home. After assessing patients' home environments, they care for and instruct patients and their families. Home health nurses care for a broad range of patients, such as those recovering from illnesses and accidents, cancer, and childbirth. They must be able to work independently, and may supervise home health aides.

### Public Health Nurse

Public health nurses work in government and private agencies and clinics, schools, retirement communities, and other community settings. They focus on populations, working with individuals, groups, and families to improve the overall health of communities. They also work as partners with communities to plan and implement programs. Public health nurses instruct individuals, families, and other groups regarding health issues, disease prevention, nutrition, and childcare. They arrange for immunizations, blood pressure testing, and other health screening. These nurses also work with community leaders, teachers, parents, and physicians in community health education.

### Occupational Health/Industrial Nurse

Occupational health or industrial nurses provide nursing care at worksites to employees, customers, and others with minor injuries and illnesses. They provide emergency care, prepare accident reports, and arrange for further care if necessary. They also offer health counseling, assist with health examinations and inoculations, and assess work environments to identify potential health or safety problems.

### Head Nurse/Nurse Supervisor

Head nurses or nurse supervisors direct nursing activities. They plan work schedules and assign duties to nurses and aides, provide or arrange for training, and visit patients to observe nurses and to ensure the proper delivery of care. They also may see that records are maintained and equipment and supplies are ordered.



[Source: [www.nursingrewards.org](http://www.nursingrewards.org)]

“During the battle against SARS, our nurses stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the rest of the healthcare workers and fought the enemy with courage and dedication. Two of them made the ultimate sacrifice.

During non-crisis times too, our nurses make us proud. For Singapore's high standard of medical care, much credit must go to the commitment and competence of our nurses.

Sustaining public respect for our nurses require substantial efforts. Respect by peers, doctors and patients have to be earned.

To do so, our nurses have to keep upgrading their skills and pursue lifelong learning. This is the only way to keep in step with scientific advances.” Mr. Khaw Boon Wan, Minister for Health (Singapore) said in his speech on refreshing the nursing career.

In line with the needs for nurses to pursue continuous education, Informatics offers the opportunity for nurses to upgrade their skills and knowledge and has introduced the BSc (Hons) in Applied Nursing Science awarded by the Northumbria University from the UK via flexi-learning.

### **The BSc (Hons) in Applied Nursing Science at Informatics**

The *BSc (Hons) in Applied Nursing Science* syllabus is industry-focused on nursing and business and provides an excellent knowledge to students. This programme works on the latest concepts to develop working applications of the nursing profession. Nursing students will receive skills reflecting industry demands in one of the most sought-after employment fields. Only a professionally qualified academic is suitable to teach nursing, receiving training from highly qualified academics will incorporate learning experiences that learners can inculcate into their own working careers.

The course materials are produced directly by Northumbria University. The course – the industrial placement – is exactly the same as the accredited version available to the students on-campus. Students will be assessed at an international level, and have the same footing as those taught elsewhere, adding mobility to an international career path in Nursing.

This programme provides participants an integrated learning methodology that comprises of mainly e-Learning and complement with local tutorials. In this way, participants can enjoy high level of flexibility and at the same time complemented with the elements of face-to-face learning.

The affordability and unique integrated methodology of this programme is ideal for both full-time and part-time learners who wish to pursue a higher education. It is especially helpful for current nurses who are on shift work.

For more information about the programme, please visit [www.informaticsgroup.com/programmes/nursing](http://www.informaticsgroup.com/programmes/nursing)



### **About Northumbria University**

Northumbria University is a large metropolitan university, first established as a polytechnic in 1969 and inaugurated as a university on 1 September 1992. The largely modularised curriculum is delivered to almost 22,000 students about 15,000 of who are full-time. The remainder study on a wide range of part-time and short courses.

### **School of Health, Community and Education Studies at Northumbria**

The new School of Health, Community and Education Studies (known formerly as the Faculty of Health, Social Work and Education), brings together a comprehensive range of expertise in the caring and enabling professions. We have over 300 academic staff supporting courses and research in health, nursing, health promotion, midwifery, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, social work and social care and teacher education.

*Northumbria has a teaching record that many traditional universities struggle to match in terms of the number of subjects rated excellent and the proportion of teaching assessments receiving top scores. [Source: The Sunday Times University Guide]*

*"Ranked 2nd in the UK for Nursing..."  
[Times Good University Guide, 2005]*

### **About Informatics Group**

The Informatics Group, listed on the mainboard of the Stock Exchange of Singapore, was established in 1983, and is a multinational corporation providing lifelong learning services in information technology and business management. Informatics presently has a global network spanning more than 50 countries, offering programmes from O/A Levels (for international students) to undergraduate and postgraduate degree completions. The Company has won many awards including the Singapore Brand Awards 2002 and 2003, the Singapore Quality Class for Private Education Organisations (SQC for PEO) as well as the People Developer Standards Award. For more information, please visit <http://www.informaticsgroup.com>.

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