

Community care : nursing, midwifery and health visiting / prepared for the Department of Health and Social Security by the Central Office of Information.

Contributors

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Health visitor groups with a handicapped child

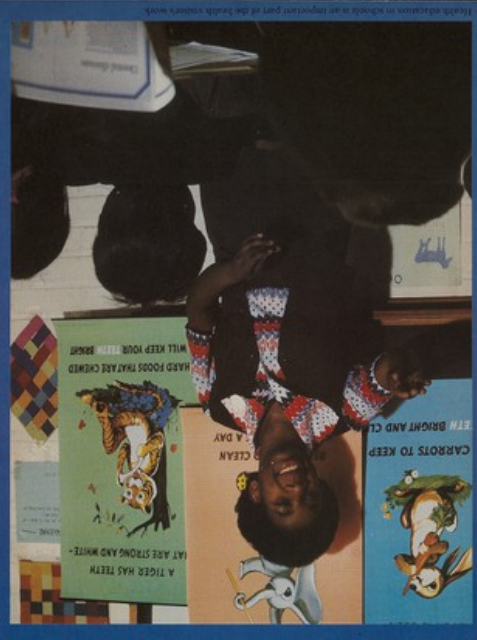
A district nurse explains her work in the home. She says that the most important part of the job is helping the patient and their family. She also talks about the importance of working with other health professionals and the need for a good team approach.

The domiciliary midwife

This aspect of her work is just as important as the other parts. She explains that she often visits patients in their homes, providing care and support. She also discusses the challenges of working in a domiciliary setting and the need for good communication and teamwork.



The district nurse calls in to check the progress of a patient being nursed at home.



Health visitors to check in on a patient and part of the health visitors work



Home visits by the health visitors

The health visitor

Health education is a subject with a wide span. It involves working with patients and their families to help them understand their health and how to stay healthy. Health visitors also provide support and advice to patients who are struggling with their health.

The district nurse

The district nurse works in close liaison with the health visitor and the general practitioner. She provides direct nursing care for patients in their homes and also provides support and advice to patients and their families. District nurses also play a key role in preventing illness and promoting health.

This is work for nurses who see themselves as part of a team, but who are, at the same time, anxious to make an individual contribution. They work for nurses who see themselves as part of a team, but who are, at the same time, anxious to make an individual contribution.

Regional Health Authorities

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| <p>East Anglian Regional Health Authority Union Lane, Chesterton Cambridge CB4 1RF Tel. Cambridge 61212</p> <p>Northern Regional Health Authority Benfield Road, Walkergate Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 4PY Tel. Newcastle upon Tyne 654148</p> <p>Oxford Regional Health Authority Old Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7LF Tel. Oxford 64861</p> <p>Mersey Regional Health Authority Wilberforce House, 6th Floor The Strand, Liverpool L2 7RW Tel. 051-236 8464</p> <p>North Western Regional Health Authority Gateway House, Piccadilly South Manchester M60 7LP Tel. 061-236 9456</p> <p>North East Thames Regional Health Authority 40 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 3QR Tel. 01-262 8011</p> <p>North West Thames Regional Health Authority 40 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 3QR Tel. 01-262 8011</p> | <p>South West Thames Regional Health Authority 40 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 3QR Tel. 01-262 8011</p> <p>Trent Regional Health Authority Fulwood House, Old Fulwood Road Sheffield S10 3TH Tel. Sheffield 306511</p> <p>West Midlands Regional Health Authority Arthur Thomson House, 146 Hagley Road Birmingham B16 9PA Tel. 021-451 4828</p> <p>Wales Welsh Office Health and Social Work Dept. Pearl Assurance House, Greyfriars Road Cardiff CF1 3RT Tel. Cardiff 44151</p> <p>South East Thames Regional Health Authority Randolph House, 66-68 Wellesey Road Croydon CR9 3QA Tel. 01-686 8877</p> <p>South Western Regional Health Authority "Parkland", 27 Tynhall's Park Road Bristol BS8 1PI Tel. Bristol 28471</p> <p>Wessex Regional Health Authority Highcroft, Romsey Road, Winchester SO22 8DH Tel. Winchester 63511</p> <p>Yorkshire Regional Health Authority Park Parade, Harrogate HG1 5AH Tel. Harrogate 63061</p> |
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You can also obtain information by writing to the Nursing and Health Service Careers Centre, 121-123 Edgware Road, London W2 2HX.

Community care

NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH VISITING

If you are interested in district nursing

State Registered Nurses, State Certified Midwives and State Enrolled Nurses should write to the Area Nursing Officer at the Area Health Authority.

If you are still having full-time education, or have only recently left school, talk it over with an officer of the Careers Service. If you are already in another occupation and want to make a change, you can get advice from Employment Offices or Jobcentres. Or, whether you are a school leaver or wish to change your job, you can contact the Nursing and Health Service Careers Centre, 121-123 Edgware Road, London W2 2HX.

Training to become a district nurse

Men and women who are State Registered Nurses can become district nurses. A 16-week training course is available at one of the centres in the area of your choice. Further information, including a list of teaching centres, can be obtained from the Panel of Assessors for District Nurse Training, Hamhill House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6TE. Men and women who are State Enrolled Nurses can take a similar, but shorter, course.

Training to become a health visitor

State Registered Nurses with midwifery training qualifications, or obstetric training, a pass in the educational test or five GCE 'O' levels, can take a one-year post-registration course at one of the centres throughout the country. A list of the centres, together with details of the special arrangements for men, is available from the Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors, Clifton House, Euston Road, London NW1 2RS.

Training to become a midwife

The length of the course for State Registered Nurses is one year. Opportunities for State Enrolled Nurses are limited. The course is 18 months. The minimum entry age is 20. Other applicants for direct entry must have five GCE 'O' levels (grade A, B or C) or the equivalent, one of which should be English or Welsh Language and one mathematics or a science.



A young mother receives advice on postnatal care from the district nurse.



The general practitioner and the district nurse work together based on a home visit.



The district nurse talks over problems.



Comfort and care from the district nurse.



The health visitor gains the confidence of mothers and young children in a playgroup.



Antenatal care by the district midwife.



District nurse at a health centre surgery.



Getting to know children at a nursery school, part of the work of health visitors.



A shared nurse talks to a patient's family.



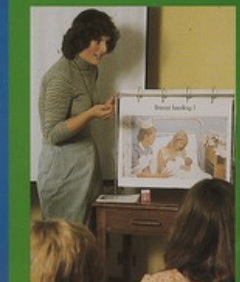
Hospital liaison is an important aspect of the health visitor's work.



The midwife calls to see a family.



District nurse at a health centre surgery.



The health visitor runs a club for mothers.



Hospital liaison is an important aspect of the health visitor's work.