

# Management of nursing competences and the need for nurses' services in conditions of limited human resources caused by the COVID-19 epidemic



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## Abstract

Nurses are one of the most important - next to doctors, paramedics and medical careers (nursing assistants), professional groups of the healthcare system, appointed to limit the effects of the COVID-19 epidemic. The reorganization of medical care in many countries around the world through the creation of infectious hospitals, infectious departments in general-profile hospitals, as well as the mass organization of other permanent residences of patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus cause that nursing care is needed everywhere in these places.

At the outbreak of an epidemic (pandemic), national health care systems in both European countries, Asia and the United States were not ready to perform all these tasks to a degree that could suddenly stop the development of the epidemic and protect the public against new infections.

The reasons for this were, among others, the shortage of the required number of nurses, the lack of preparation of professionally active medical personnel (e.g. in the field of using antiviral personal protection equipment), as well as the inappropriate policy of many countries regarding the organization of care for residents of nursing homes, non-infectious hospitals other hospitals and medical outpatient clinics.

In European countries (Spain, Italy, Poland) about 13 - 15% of infected are medical personnel, including nurses. In Spain, due to one of the highest number of people infected in Europe in total, it is about 12,000 people, in Poland almost 500. For obvious reasons, these people were excluded from work in the medical care system, limited nursing care anyway, and some people even died.

The article is an analysis of the current situation related to the COVID-19 threat in the field of nursing services and a presentation of systemic possibilities that will be introduced in the future and will probably allow better preparation of the health care system to face future threats.

## Publication

The demand for professional nursing care in Europe in the context of health exclusion and the needs of patients.

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## Biography

Piotr Karniej, Ph.D., MBA is an economist, assist. Professor of public health and health management with an experience of management of hospitals and private clinics. He is a Head of the Public Health Department and V-ce Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the Wroclaw Medical University (Poland) responsible - among others - for nursing students. Co-operates on the scientific level with the Catholic University of Valencia (Spain), Sapienza University in Rome (Italy) and others. He is an expert for evaluation of the projects financed by the European Union on a field of health. Member of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA), the European Society of Cardiology - Association of Cardiovascular Nursing & Allied Professions (ACNAP). V-ce President of the Polish Association of Health Care Managers (STOMOZ), member of the board of the Polish Association of Public Health (institutional member of EUPHA).

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