

International E-Conference on

NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

November 18-20, 2020 | Virtual Webinar

**Dr Umesh Prabhu**Medical Director, Pediatric Consultant, NHS
United Kingdom

Women in Leadership

Nursing is an important profession. I have had an amazing career in UK National Health Service (NHS). I had an amazing opportunity to work with wonderful nurses. I saw wonderful compassion. In UK there are nurses and doctors from 118 countries, and they are the backbone of healthcare and NHS.

Patient care is teamwork and in a team, everyone contributes to be a successful outcome. The surgeon may do the most complicated surgery but if nurses do not look after well post-operatively or if nurses do not help the surgeon during major surgery, the patient may die, or the operation will not be successful.

I learnt a lot of nurses, they taught me compassion and it is they who came to meet me when they saw doctors harming patients. Doctors are human beings and each day human beings make 5 to 7 mistakes. To err is human important to learn lessons and to protect patients, doctors and the nurses and the team.

WHO study shows that today medical errors are considered to be one of the common cause of harm or death in patients. Each year it is estimated that there may be 1 million patients die due to preventable harm due to post-operative surgical complications. 1 million patients may be dying due to hospital-acquired infections

Medication errors are one more important cause of harm to patients. In USA 7000 to 9000 patients die due to Medication errors and in UK 1000 patients die each year due to medication errors. It is estimated that in India up to 400000 patients may be dying each year due to medication errors

Important is not to blame hard-working doctors or nurses or pharmacists but to learn lessons from these errors. Without doctors, nurses, or pharmacists many patients will die. We must have a good teaching program, training, regular audit, and help doctors, nurses, and other staff to provide good care. If there is not enough staff, if staff are under stress, if staff are tired or not trained properly they will make mistakes and patients will suffer.

When I was Medical Director, we reduced harm to patients by 90% over 8 years by supporting staff and empowering staff and creating a staff happiness culture. happy staff = Happy patients is how we reduced harm to patients.

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Nurses helped us a lot and so is pharmacists and other staff to protect our patients. Patient safety is important. Patient safety is a human rights issue. One day we will all be patients.

I want to thank all the wonderful nurses and amazing healthcare staff. This year many hard-working front-line staff have died due to covid. Hopefully, the covid vaccine will be effective and next year we will all be back to normal and continue to serve humanity.

Being a doctor or a nurse is a noble profession and most wonderful profession. It is all about serving humanity. Let us be proud of our noble and wonderful profession. India has played a huge role in the medical and nursing field, Today, we have Indian doctors and nurses in various parts of the World, and we must be proud of India.

We all must take a proactive role in preventing harm to patients and prevention is always better than cure.

Biography:

Dr Umesh Prabhu is a pediatric consultant and former medical director at Wigan & Leigh NHS Trust, NCAA adviser and clinical director for NHS Professionals. Dr Prabhu was a Medical director for 15 years and has huge experience in NHS and patient safety. He received many Awards for his work on Patient safety After his graduation in India Dr Prabhu came to the UK in 1982. He then trained in Pediatrics at Oxford, Edinburgh and Leeds and in 1992 was appointed as a Consultant Pediatrician to the Bury NHS Trust. He was the lead clinician in Pediatrics between 1992 to 1998. In 1998 he was appointed as the Medical Director of Bury Trust. He was a Non-executive member of the NPSA from 2001-2003. His special interest is medical errors and patient safety. As a Medical Director he conducted an audit of all medico-legal cases and complaints. He also analyzed all cases of severe birth asphyxia at Bury NHS Trust from 1986 to 1994. Dr Prabhu has personal experience in the field of patient safety and medical errors and is a passionate believer that protecting patients and supporting doctors are two sides of the same coin.