

NURSE COORDINATOR FOR HEALTHCARE PRODUCTS

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INTRODUCTION

Globally, nurses are taking on more active roles in the efficient management of medical devices (MDs) due to the increasing complexity of healthcare systems and the development of new technologies.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted their capabilities in this area, leading to a growing demand for trained professionals.

In Spain, the role of the nurse manager of medical devices has become more visible, overseeing not only the use of such devices but also their procurement, supply, and maintenance, while ensuring compliance with regulations.

There are several reasons why nurses should take responsibility for medical devices, including their training and experience, knowledge of the healthcare system and medical devices, and their ability to foster interdisciplinary relationships, among others.

METHODOLOGY

An information search was conducted in the database of the Spanish National Association of Nurse Coordinators of Material Resources (ANECORM), collecting data on its members and the number of nursing professionals in each Autonomous Community, in order to identify those responsible for the management of medical devices.

To understand the current status of this professional role at the national level, 116 surveys were sent to the Nursing Directors of healthcare centers across the various Autonomous Communities. The questions were aimed at gathering information about which professional profile was considered the most suitable for the management of medical resources.

RESULTS

The presence of these professionals at the national level has been consolidating over time, currently, ANECORM has 200 members. According to 98% of the surveys sent, healthcare centers have professionals responsible for the management of medical resources, and 100% believe this role is essential within healthcare management.

Their key competencies include: organizing and planning the appropriate use of healthcare products and technologies; ensuring their effective and efficient use; identifying areas for improvement based on efficiency and quality; solving problems to enhance care quality; managing organizational development; and efficiently coordinating resources and teams within the hospital.

CONCLUSIONS

The involvement of nurses in decision-making and in the selection of materials within the organization adds significant value, improving the efficiency and effectiveness of resource management, as well as the quality of care and patient safety.

We believe that nurses are the most suitable and essential professionals to take on this role, as their comprehensive perspective enables them to innovate and adapt more effectively to future challenges.

At this time, it is crucial to focus on specific training and academic accreditation, as there are currently few initiatives in this area. Most of the knowledge and skills are acquired empirically over time within the workplace.

