

Bedford College

(University of London)

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Nursing Studies

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3 August 1984

Dear Sister

Ward

Re: Bedford College/Middlesex Hospital
Nursing Students "Consolidation Period"

I am writing to you to confirm that one of our students will be working on your ward for her 'consolidation' period in ward-management from October 8th 1984 12.45 a.m. to and including December 12th 1984. The student's off-duty period should cover all shifts, but she should not be expected to work more than three weekends within an eight week period. Her regular study day will be Friday.

We envisage that the student should gradually learn how to manage nursing care of an increasing number of patients, ending up with the ability to take charge of the ward. By the end of the student's period on your ward she is expected to take her ward management as well as her total patient care assessment. (formerly GNC assessment 3 and 4).

We have refrained from providing you with a list of tasks we expect the student to become competent in because of our belief that a list of tasks usually ends up in a set of rules which ultimately defeats the whole of the nursing experience.

However, we understand that ward management incorporates not only the co-ordination of patients' nursing care but also the handling of working with students, of conducting a 'medical round' of interpreting and giving of reports, the ordering of equipment, the observation of a ward's health and safety rules and whatever else is (a) specific to your ward and (b) specific to your thinking.

I take the liberty of enclosing a draft outline of the nursing management course which will be taught at the same time as the students are undergoing their management placements.

Yours sincerely

Marion Ferguson
Director, Nursing Studies.

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