



Nursing and Social Media: What Would @FlorenceNightingale Say?

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Summary: Social media can be either an incredible means of communication or detrimental to a nurse's career (Spector & Kappel, 2012). Both new and seasoned nurses require education, updates, and guidelines to navigate this information highway. Nurses may not realize the impact their voices have on social media. Words are powerful, and incorrect information can be viewed as fact. However, this medium can also promote networking, dissemination of information, and education (McGonigle & Mastrian, 2012). This presentation addresses the benefits and risks of social networking and the nurse's responsibilities when using this means of communication.

Nursing Implications:

- Social media can be beneficial for networking and dissemination of information.
- Nurses are accountable for what they post on social media.
- Social media can place nurses at risk for actions by their employers and state boards of nursing.

Key Takeaways:

- Once something is posted on the internet, even when deleted, it can be retrieved.
- Consider having personal and professional social media accounts.
- Think before you post.
- When in doubt, do not post or respond to social media.

Link: <https://library.amsn.org/amsn/sessions/5338/view>

References:

McGonigle, D., & Garver Mastrian, K. (2012). *Nursing Informatics and the Foundation of Knowledge* (2nd ed.). Burlington, Ma: Jones & Bartlett Learning.

ANA's Principles for Social Networking and the Nurse. (2011). Retrieved from <https://www.nursingworld.org/~4af4f2/globalassets/docs/ana/ethics/social-networking.pdf>

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