

Exploring the Future of Nursing

On 30 July 2019, a daylong workshop was held at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. The workshop was led by Futurist Amy Webb of the [Future Today Institute](#) (FTI) and produced a broad range of emerging signals and trends, a list of uncertainties and recommendations.

The purpose of this day-long workshop was to support a national cadre of leaders to inform their assessment of the capacity of the nursing profession to meet the anticipated health and social care demands from 2020 to 2030. Workshop participants learned more about the future of Artificial Intelligence, learned about and utilized strategic foresight tools, and spent time sharing and categorizing signals of the future in an effort to derive emerging trends that may affect the future of nursing.

November 2019

10 trends³ that may be important to the Future of Nursing

1. Increasing prevalence and severity of climate-change related illnesses.
2. Increasing variation in local and state legislation and regulation that affects health.
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4. More information from algorithms for nurses to consider in care decisions.
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Future Trend-Sensing Workshop

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Envisioning the Future

In five, ten, and fifty years:

Future of Work

- Who employs nurses?
- When and where do nurses work?
- What new services will nurses provide?
- With whom do nurses work?
- Who is a nurse?

Future of Technology

November 2019

Future Scenarios

Below are a set of five scenarios, or stories, meant to draw on some of the signals that were uncovered during the workshop and intended to stretch the time horizon of the committee members who are gathered to think about the future of nursing.

Nurses drive a specially equipped car that is full of lab equipment

Lucia handed her son one final cotton ball for the finishing touches on his weather diorama and told her daughter it was almost time to catch the bus. Lucia walked outside of her door and smiled when she saw into the back

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His Apple Watch starts buzzing and encourages him to use his meditation app because his biomarkers a deep breath and pulls up the Insight app. He sees his provider Marcus is available for a video call. All of Black and worked at a Fortune 500 company for a number of years before going back to school to become a nurse. During his last call, Marcus told him that racial discrimination can cause chronic stress and can cause post-traumatic stress disorder in extreme cases.

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Precision Comfort for Nurses and Patients

Mia was just starting her shift as an ICU nurse. She felt a little like a football player getting ready for a game as she put on her posture-

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Susan asked, feeling a lump in her throat and pressing a button on her bracelet to produce a shock in her brain to help her listen attentively.

predict that Sam is in the very early stages of depression. Generally, for cases like these, we adjust the situation remotely, but we know that you have a preference for face-to-robot communication, so I thought

was eating less and going to her room earlier in the evening. Does it look

adjustments will get her back on track. Our plan is to load her night aroma with stress releasing scents. The bubble gum flavor she selected is likely tricking her brain into thinking it will receive sugar, and keeping her stimulated. We have turned her bracelet blue so that her friends and teachers understand that they should stories that make her happy. Her homework will get a little easier to help her feel challenged, yet in control of her outcomes, and we have increased her treadmill more time walking before watching her shows."

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Sitting on her couch, Jay remembered a story that a fellow nurse, working in geriatrics, had told about a building owner in the northeastern U.S. who had transformed her building and its services so aging residents could stay in their homes.

Educated as both a city planner and a geriatric nurse, Jay knew she would have to consider all the city regulations to scale such a model. She made a bee-line to the computer the next morning and opened the AI-as-a-service app.

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Alsha parsed through all the literature published on age-related illness, architecture, and city planning as well as sensors that provided real-time information on elevator issues, early pest issues, asbestos, and more.

Jay poured herself a cup of coffee and when she returned to her desk she scanned through what Alsha had found. In front of her was a list with details of city policies and ordinances that might help or challenge her efforts, each with examples of projects related to the specific regulation and to her project.

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