

Nursing Facts

1995 - 10% of newly licensed registered nurses (RNs) in the United States were foreign educated
2003 - 14% of newly licensed registered nurses (RNs) in the United States were foreign educated

National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCLEX), 12 February 2004

ESOL nursing students face higher attrition rates than non-ESOL, especially in first semester

- ◆ Focus on English fluency for academic and clinical work
- ◆ Improve communication skills with physicians, staff, patients, family members

Guhde, JA, Journal of Cultural Diversity, 10 (4), 113-117

More than 23,000 non-U.S. citizens took the national registered nurse exam in 2002. Countries represented include:

Philippines, India, Canada, Nigeria, Korea, the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth of States (formerly the U.S.S.R)

Foreign healthcare professionals should be assured basic workers' rights including:

- ◆ Effective and culturally appropriate orientation, mentoring and supervision
- ◆ Professional development and education

American Federation of Teachers Healthcare Program and Policy Council, October 2003

What is included in Accent Modification Training?

- **Stress and Intonation patterns** – reduce potential misinterpretation of critical information, e.g., 15 mg vs. 50 mg
- **Clear pronunciation** – state medical information accurately, e.g., “bleeding” vs. “breathing”
- **Idiomatic expressions and slang** – reduce communication barriers, e.g., “He’s out of the woods;” “I’ve had it.”
- **Cultural Awareness** – learn cultural values for communication styles, decision making, hygiene, nutrition, medications, compliance to a medical plan, family constellations, and end of life decisions