

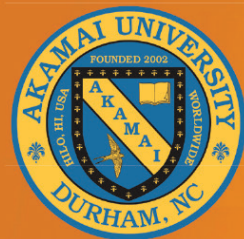
**#3338 SUPPORT & HELP CARING FOR SENIORS AT HOME —
INTERFACE ISSUES BETWEEN HOSPITAL DISCHARGE &
SENIOR DECLINE**

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Addressing global health priorities and strengthening the healthcare system; improving patient access to the health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship.

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Care for seniors and their families must be addressed worldwide. Nurses are in a key position to come up with creative strategies that meet individualized needs. That being said, a number of community, hospital and family systems approaches need to be viewed with new eyes including financial responsibilities impacting both wealthy, the poor and marginalized.

Caring for my sister with hospice-at-home brought new insights and awareness. My goal became how to achieve success in helping to empower the person making their transition and supporting the family members in “saying goodbye”.

At age 79 and still working full time as president of a university with a private business and private practice I also cared for another senior who has dementia and is in an apartment complex titled “resort living”. As I walk that journey almost daily with her and the 65+ seniors living there, I hear and witness the dynamics presented to seniors, the agency, visiting caretakers and family members.

One MD Senior icon whom I have been professionally associated with, returned home from a hospital emergency visit, rehab and into his home. His son was struggling to oversee his father’s care with lack of support from 3 other siblings. The son is now in “crisis” himself. As I presented a “life jacket to him” I thought innovative ways are needed to solve this challenge which is costing the client \$20,000 a month that he does not have. What about the poor, the marginalized? Inspired solutions are coming! Let’s open our hearts be inspired to find innovative solutions in our role as nurses.

3338 Caring for Seniors

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