



Mental Health Nursing without Borders

**Canadian Nurses Building Mental
Health Capacity Among Registered
Nurses in Guyana.**

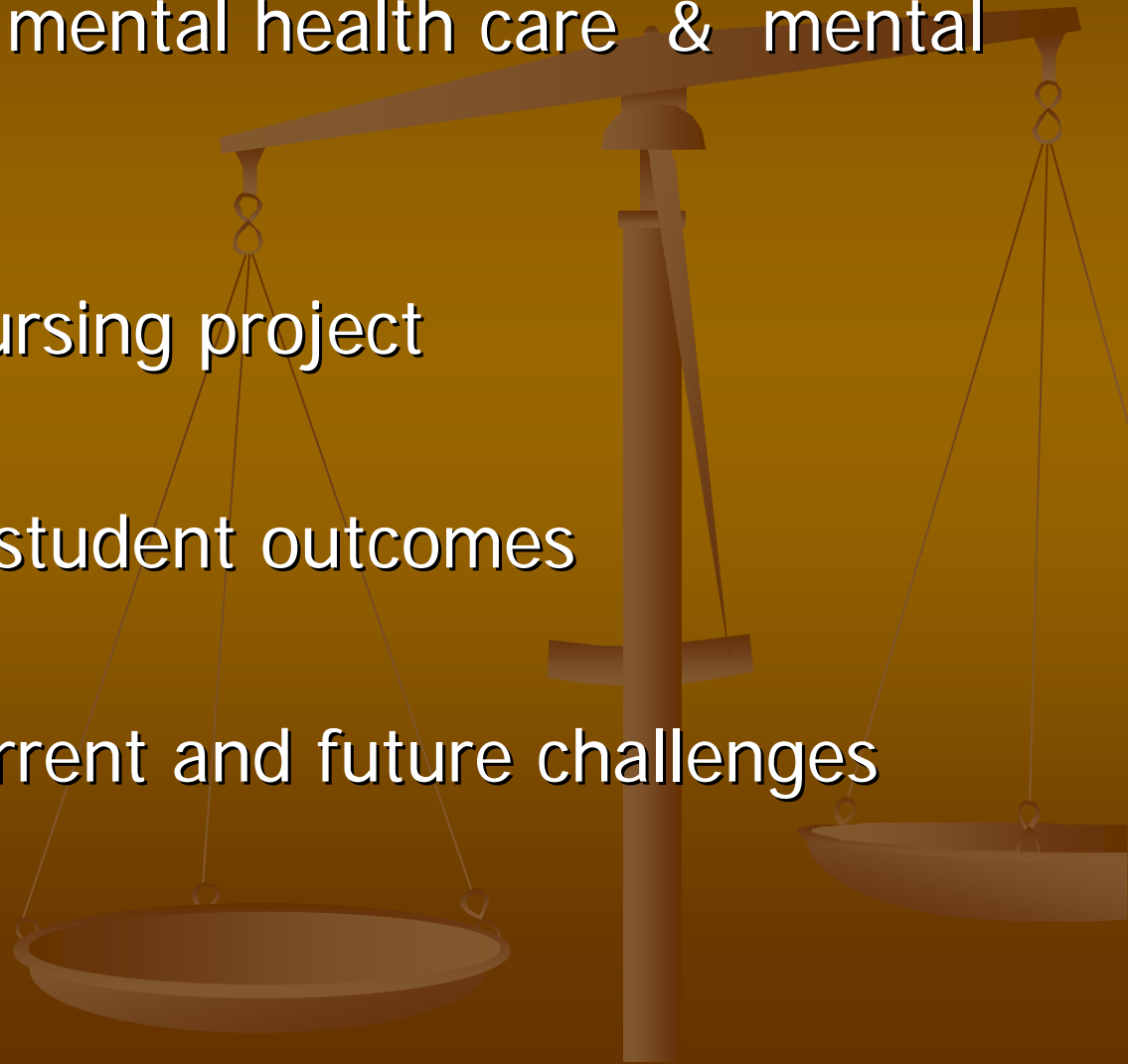
Outline

Review Guyana's mental health care & mental health strategy

Purpose of the nursing project

Current status & student outcomes

Reflections on current and future challenges



Mental Health Care Guyana



Inadequate in number & training to meet the mental health needs of the pop.

No psychiatric nurses in the country in either the public or private sector

Care in psychiatric settings barely meets basis care needs

Mental Health Strategy-Guyana



Multi-year strategy (2008-2012) to improve mental health care in Guyana

Strategies 6 & 7 aimed at establishing a comprehensive approach to in-service training & professional development for health & allied health

Purpose of the Nursing Involvement

Develop a post-RN program in psychiatric nursing to ↑ human resource capacity

Implement & evaluate the education program and delivery model

Work collaboratively with the Ministry of Health to create a sustainability plan

Current Status



Program model

30 week self-study program, supported through Elluminate, & followed by 4-mo. internship

Periodic on-site clinical supervision, evaluation/testing and problem solving

Update on the students progress

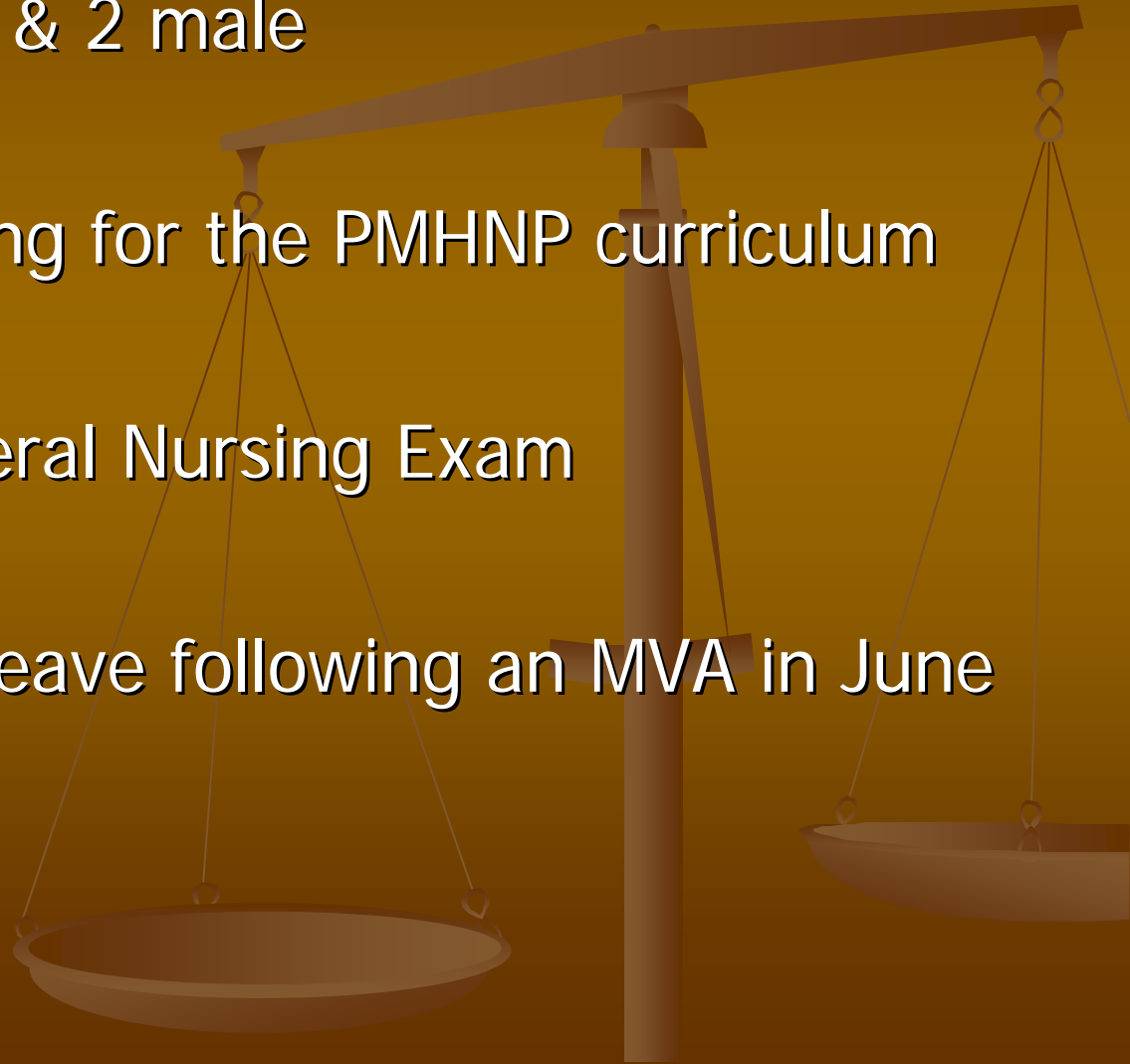
Current Status-Cont'd

8 students-6 female & 2 male

5/8 passed the testing for the PMHNP curriculum

2/5 passed the General Nursing Exam

1/8 out on medical leave following an MVA in June

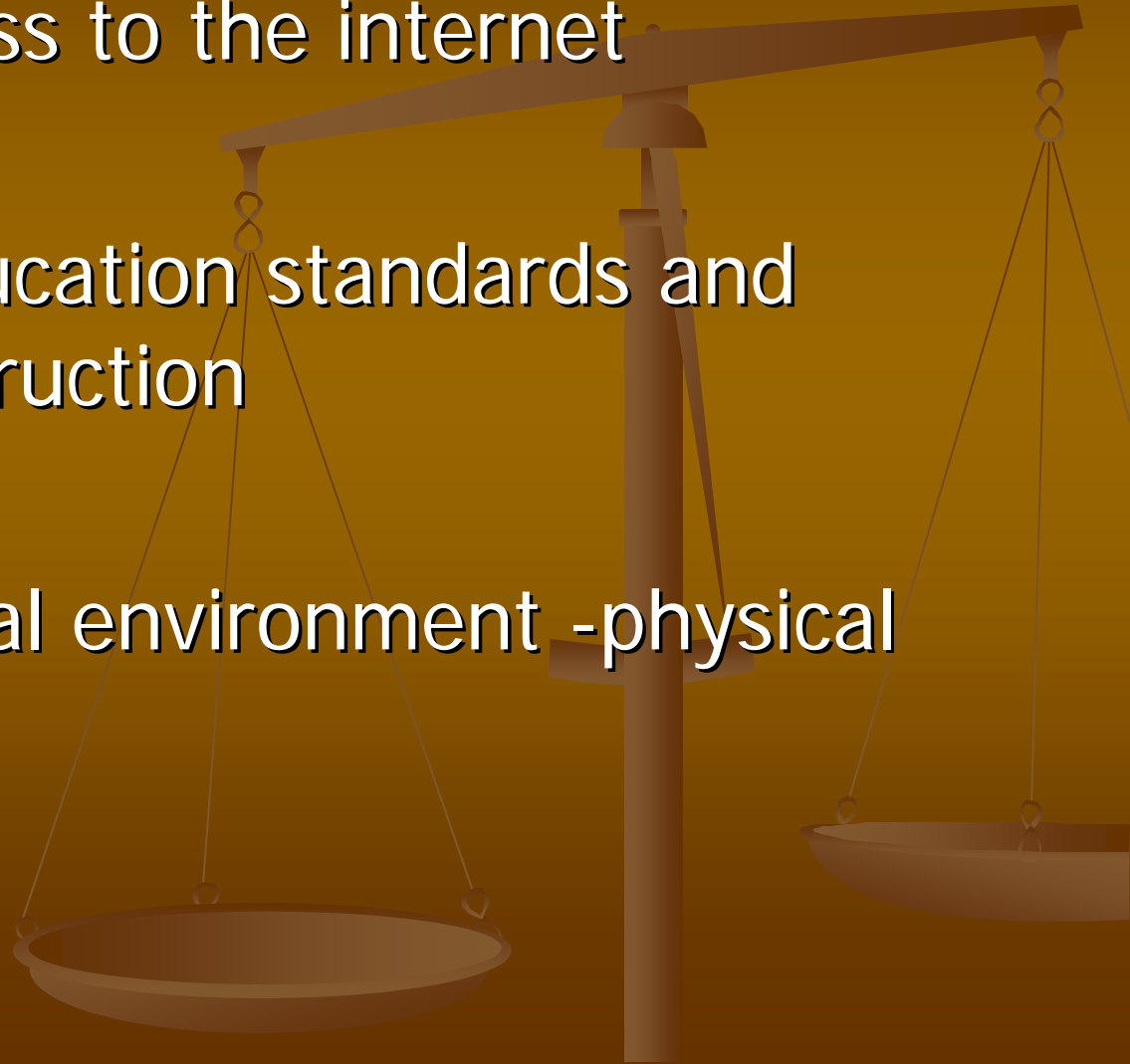


Reflections on Current Challenges

Inconsistent access to the internet

Differences in education standards and methods of instruction

Challenging clinical environment -physical





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Current Challenges-Cont'd

Lack of any practice standards in the clinical setting

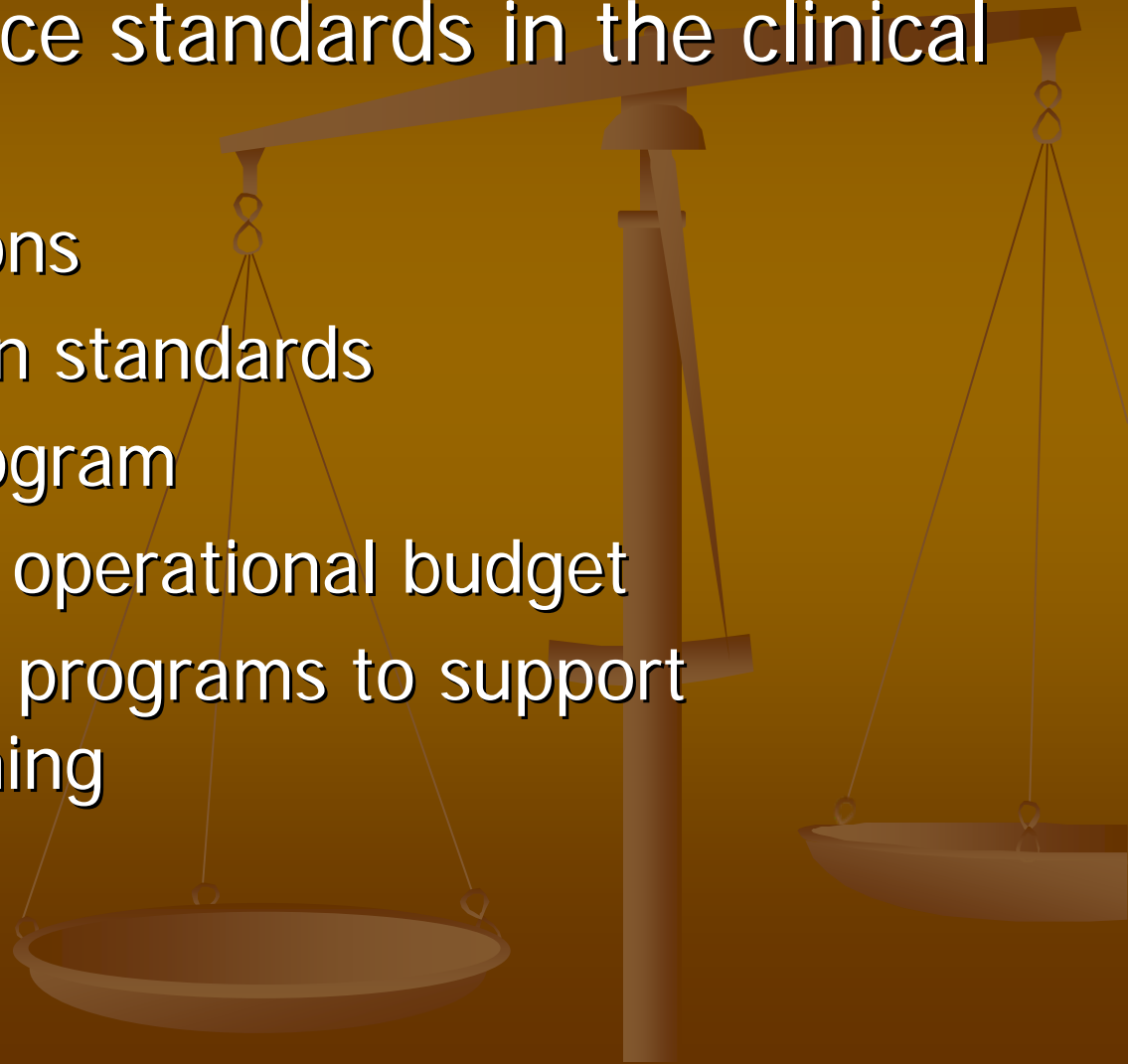
Limited medications

No documentation standards

No structured program

Lack of access to operational budget

Absence of social programs to support discharge planning

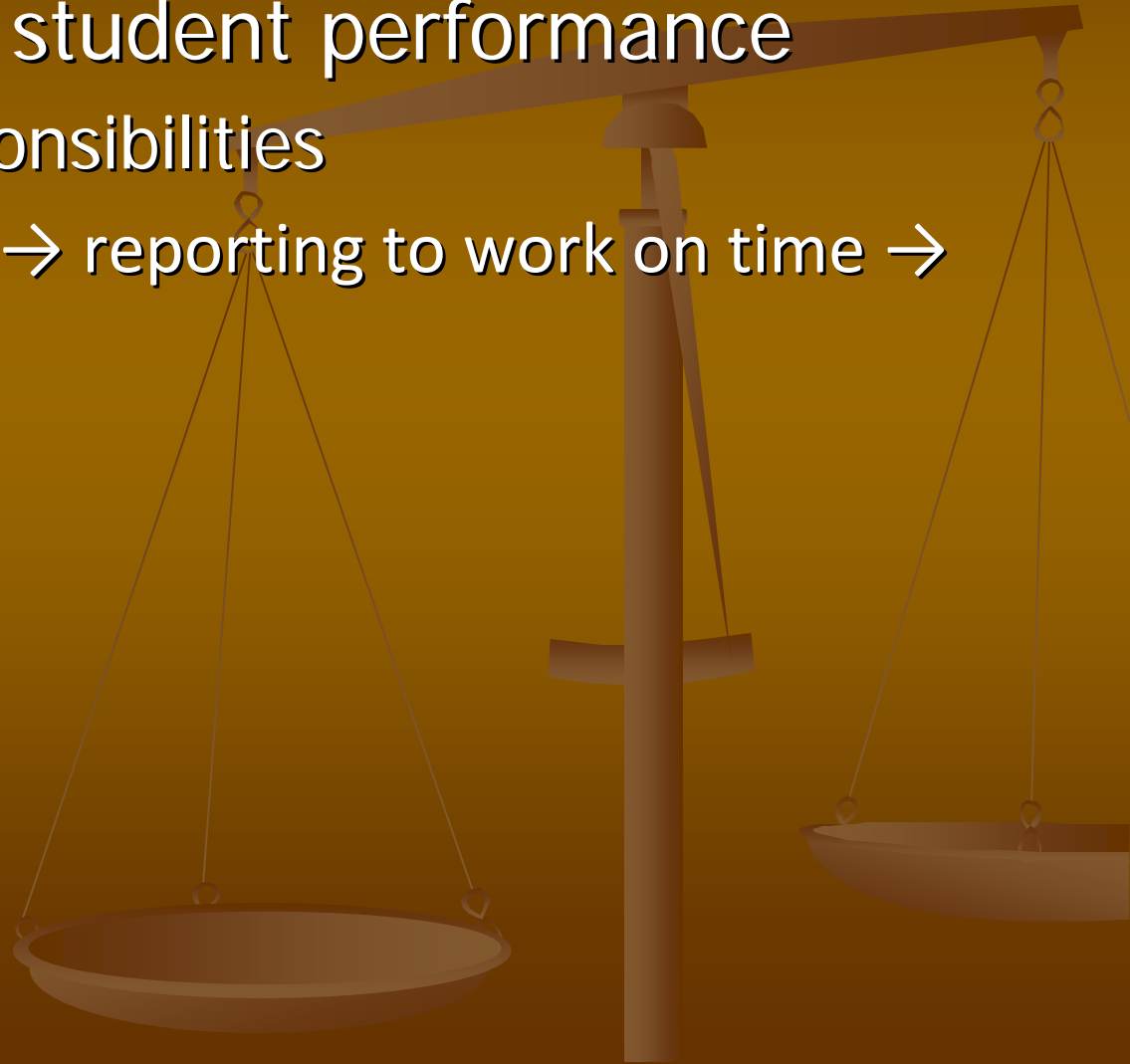


Current Challenges-Cont'd

Social impacts on student performance

Many family responsibilities

Travel challenges → reporting to work on time → professionalism



Successes



Increased in knowledge and skills

Improved patient care

Assessments done on all newly admitted patients

Medications administered regularly

Nursing interventions being introduced

Documentation of patient care

Students feedback about the program

Future Challenges



Need to determine how to move forward with a 2nd /future class given the issues re:

Inconsistent access to the internet

The academic achievements of the 1st class

Change selection criteria

Lower pass mark consistent with Guyana's standards

The lack of a transition plan

Questions

- ??????????

