

International E-Conference on

NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

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Inclusive, Diverse Nursing Leadership - A question of care, quality and safety

Nursing and healthcare in the 21st century is charged with delivering high quality care within an increasingly diverse society. Much of the policy, practice and research drivers underpinning the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to optimise health equity and improving life chances. In pursuit of this, nursing practice often focuses almost exclusively on meeting the needs of patients, service users and the public. However, recent reports on nursing shortages worldwide, also highlight that compassionate care for patients often fails to recognise the direct links between life chances of patients and care or support of the nursing profession - in this regard we do ourselves, and our nursing workforce a dis-service. In the silent spaces between patient needs and nursing responsibilities, we fail to acknowledge the importance of inclusive and diverse leadership as the catalyst to delivering the high quality, equitable and culturally competent care that we all hope for. This presentation will use personal and professional reflections to highlight the importance of culturally competent and compassionate leadership to truly achieving safety and quality in 21st century health care. It explores the challenges and opportunities faced at an individual and professional level in Nursing, looking back at some of the Global health and nursing strategic drivers of the last few years and makes a case for centralising culturally competent, compassionate leadership for the future sustainability of our Nursing profession.

Biography:

Professor Laura Serrant OBE is Professor of Community and Public health Nursing and one of the few black Professors of Nursing in the UK. She was also one of the first to qualify as a nurse with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She has frequently found herself as the sole voice representing nurses and minority communities; a position which she has striven to challenge throughout her career by empowering others to come forward to join her, in a unique call to 'lift as you climb'. Professor Serrant's research interests relate to community and public health, specifically health disparities and the needs of marginalised and 'seldom heard' communities. She is one of few academics to have developed and published a theoretical framework for conducting research in this area of work 'The Silences Framework' (Serrant-Green 2010). Professor Serrant has an extensive experience in national and international health policy development with particular specialist input on racial and ethnic inequalities and cultural safety.

She is one of the 2017 BBC Expert women, Chair of the Chief Nursing Officer for England's BME Strategic Advisory group and a 2017 Florence Nightingale Scholar. She is an ambassador of the Mary Seacole Memorial Statue and the Equality Challenge Unit Race Equality Charter for Higher Education. Her work has been recognised with numbers awards and prizes, including Queens Nurse status and Fellowship of the Queens Nursing Institute to those who have shown leadership in community nursing. In 2014, she was named as one of the top 50 leaders in the UK by The Health Services Journal in three separate categories: Inspirational Women in Healthcare, BME Pioneers and Clinical Leader awards. In October 2017 she was listed as the 8th most influential Black person in the UK by the Powerlist 2018. Her sustained work as a multi award winning Global specialist in health equity, diversity and inclusive practice led to her being awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list 2018 for services to Nursing and Health Policy.