

The nursing profession in Cameroon has a rich and fascinating history. Let me take you on a journey through time to explore the evolution of nursing in this wonderful country.

Nursing in Cameroon can be traced back to the colonial era when healthcare services were initially provided by foreign missionaries. These missionaries played a crucial role in laying the foundation for nursing education and practice in the country. They established hospitals and clinics where they trained local men and women to provide basic healthcare services.

The nursing profession in Cameroon took a significant leap forward in the 1960s when the country gained its independence. The government recognized the need for a more formal and structured approach to nursing education and practice. As a result, nursing schools began to emerge across the country, offering training programs for aspiring nurses.

In 1973, the Cameroon Nursing Council (CNC) was established as the regulatory body for nursing in the country. The CNC is responsible for setting standards of practice, registering nurses, and ensuring the ethical conduct of nursing professionals. This marked an important milestone in the professionalization of nursing in Cameroon and brought increased recognition and legitimacy to the profession.

Over the years, nursing education in Cameroon has undergone significant changes. Initially, nursing programs were mainly certificate-based, but there has been a shift towards diploma and degree programs. This change reflects the increasing demand for higher education qualifications in nursing and the recognition of the importance of advanced nursing practice.

Today, nursing in Cameroon is a well-established profession with a diverse range of roles and specialties. Nurses play a vital role in the delivery of healthcare services, working in hospitals, clinics, community health centers, and various other healthcare settings. They provide direct patient care, assist in surgeries, administer medications, promote health education, and contribute to the management and coordination of healthcare services.

It is important to note that nursing in Cameroon, like in many other countries, faces challenges such as staffing shortages, limited resources, and unequal distribution of healthcare services. However, efforts are being made to address these challenges through initiatives such as the recruitment and training of more nurses, the establishment of specialized nursing programs,



and the improvement of working conditions and remuneration for nurses.

Overall, the nursing profession in Cameroon has come a long way, evolving from humble beginnings to becoming an integral part of the healthcare system. Nurses in Cameroon continue to make valuable contributions towards improving the health and well-being of the population.

