



JIM C – HEALTH TERMS MONDAY - 07/27/2009

Nursing has been called the oldest of arts and the youngest of professions.

HOW DID THE TERM “NURSE” ORIGINATE?

***Encarta:* Somebody trained to look after sick or injured people, especially somebody who works in a hospital or clinic, administering the care and treatment that a doctor prescribes.**

***Online Etymology:* 12th century, *nurric* "wet nurse, foster-mother to a young child," from Old French *norrice*, from Latin *nutricia* "nurse, governess, tutoress." Meaning "person who takes care of sick" first recorded in English 1590; the verb is first attested 1535.**

- **17th Century:** St. Vincent de Paul began to encourage women to undertake some form of training for their work
- **1846:** Hospital training for nurses was established in Germany
- **1860:** Florence Nightingale ("*Lady with the Lamp*", pioneer of Modern Nursing) established the Nightingale School and Home for training nurses at St. Thomas's Hospital, London
- **Civil War:** Over 3,000 women served as volunteer military nurses
- **Late 1800s:** Anesthesia became the first clinical nursing specialty

Conventional Wisdom: Nurse = A Capable Medical Professional

M of Z: A future RN may be the primary health care provider