

Can a Neurodisability Nursing Framework Strengthen Learning Disability Nursing? – Easier Read version.

You can read the full article here: [Can a Neurodisability Nursing Framework Strengthen Learning Disability Nursing: Reflections from an RCN/Oxleas Event - PBS4](#)

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|  A portrait of Jonathan Beebee, a Registered Nurse in Learning Disabilities. He is a middle-aged man with a shaved head, wearing a dark blue patterned shirt, standing in front of a stone wall. | <p>Jonathan Beebee is a Registered Nurse in Learning Disabilities.</p> <p>He has written an article sharing his thoughts on what is needed to protect learning disability nursing.</p> |
|  An illustration of three people (two men and one woman) in blue uniforms. A thought bubble with a red question mark is above the person in the middle, indicating confusion or a lack of understanding. | <p>Many learning disability nurses say that people do not understand their roles, and they don't know what they do.</p> <p>The general public can be confused about what a learning disability is too.</p> |
|  An illustration of a female nurse in a blue uniform standing next to a male patient in a red shirt who is sitting in a wheelchair. A red heart with a white ECG line is positioned between them, symbolizing care and health. | <p>Learning disability nurses are essential. They enable people to get their health needs met. They provide specific support for people with learning disabilities in health and social care.</p> <p>We know the health inequalities people with learning disabilities face so their roles are essential.</p> <p>.</p> |

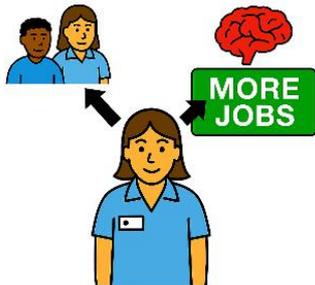


But the profession is facing many **challenges**.

The number of **learning disability nursing jobs in the NHS has more than halved** since 2009

The number of **students** training to be learning disability nurses has **dropped by 40%** in the last 5 years.

Some **universities have stopped providing this training**.



It is suggested that, to protect learning disability nursing jobs, **the way these nurses are registered should change**.

Being a **Registered Nurses in Neurodisabilities** could open more job opportunities.

Neurodisability is not the same as neurodiversity. In health **neurodisability is linked to neurology**.

Registered Nurses in Neurodisabilities would have job opportunities in learning disability services and neurology services.

Having broader **job opportunities would attract more students**.



An image is shared in the article for what this framework might look like.

It would be about making **learning disability nursing a central** and specific field for Registered Nurses in Neurodisabilities. This does **not** mean that jobs for learning disability nurses will change. The jobs will stay the same and need to be protected. It only changes **how nurses register. Learning disability nursing jobs would stay the same** and need to be protected.

It puts other areas of healthcare next to learning disabilities, where we know learning disability nurses have skills already.



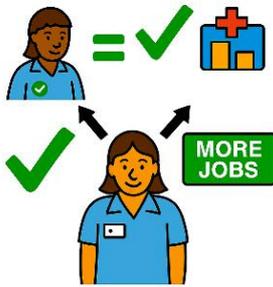
The **core practice areas** remain the same for learning disability nurses, and Registered Nurses in Neurodisabilities can apply these skills in the other areas.



Nurses continue to provide adapted nursing interventions themselves, whilst also having a role in helping other health services to meet people's needs.



And the **values** of learning disability nursing work just as well for other areas of neurodisability nursing.



This is **not** about changing how we describe people with learning disabilities.

It is **not** about changing learning disability nursing jobs.

It is **not** about changing learning disability services.

It is about **changing the point of registration** to create more nurses who can apply for learning disability nursing jobs.



Other terms have been considered, but other options do not create the same job opportunities for nurses as “Registered Nurse in Neurodisabilities” would create.



Jonathan would love to hear your thoughts on this. You can complete a **short survey** here to share your thoughts [Opinions on changing the field of Registered Nurses in Learning Disabilities](#). Thank you.