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## Common Healthcare Career Myths

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Whether you're a veteran healthcare worker or just starting out, some long-held myths about the industry can hinder your career -- or stop you before you even get started. Monster asked healthcare professionals about [several] common healthcare career myths. Learn the truth to avoid falling for these fallacies.

### **Myth: The nursing shortage guarantees me the perfect job when I graduate.**

"While the shortage of nurses is acute across the United States, great locations and [great organizations](#) turn away candidates," says Neill Marshall, managing partner with Coppell, Texas-based Marshall Koll & Associates, an executive search firm specializing in hospital and healthcare. "These organizations have their pick of the best and brightest."

### **Myth: If I only attend a two-year college, I won't be a real nurse.**

"An associate's degree in nursing (ADN) is required to take and pass the National Council Licensure Examination along with students who have earned bachelor's degrees in nursing," says Val Richardson, director of workforce development for Palmetto Health in South Carolina. ADN programs are offered at local technical colleges.

### **Myth: To protect my patients and myself from emotional stress, I must not establish a relationship with them.**

"The provider/patient [relationship](#) requires respect, integrity, trust and compassion," says Dr. Georgianna Donadio, founder and executive director of the New England School of Whole Health Education in Wellesley, Massachusetts. "Without creating an equity-based relationship built on these values, the provider cannot facilitate patients' healing in an authentic and appropriate way."

### **Myth: A degree in healthcare will allow me to help other people in the way that I want to.**

"Helping patients looks different from each specialist's perspective," Donadio says. "Some of the interactions can be rewarding, but, often, unless you are a licensed provider of a healthcare treatment-focused specialty, you will be asked to do the grunt work so that the practitioner can have more time to spend with the patients."