

1854

Florence Nightingale takes a team of thirty-eight nurses to care for soldiers in the Crimean War.

1855

Mary Seacole sets up the British Hotel for soldiers in the Crimean War to nurse them back to health.

1860

Florence Nightingale opened the **Nightingale Training School for Nurses** at St Thomas' hospital in London.

1887

British Nurses Association is created, with Princess Helena (Queen Victoria's daughter) as its President. It wanted to improve the training and status of nurses and allowed them to register as professional nurses.

1914-18

World War One – There was an increase in registered nurses in response to the war. The Queen Alexandra Imperial Military Nursing Service (QAIMNS) is developed.

1916

Royal College of Nursing is founded.

1919

Nurses Registration Act created the first professional register of nurses and standardises training and examinations. When exams were passed, they became standard registered nurses.

1921

111,501 women and 11,000 men were registered as nurses.

1930

The average nurse worked 117 hours per fortnight.

1937

'Nurses Charter' demanded improvements to nurses' accommodation and working hours, reducing these to 96 hours per fortnight.

1939-1945

World War Two – Nurses joined up to QAIMNS again. Nurses were able to gain officer status.

1948

National Health Service (NHS) is established, offering free medical treatment for all.

1951

Male nurses were allowed to join the professional nurses register for the first time.

1956

First nursing studies unit to degree level was offered in the UK at Edinburgh University.

1859 Most nurses worked 88 hours per fortnight.

1967 Report introduces nurses into management roles within hospitals, including Chief Nursing Officer.

1983 United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting (UKCC) is the new registration body for nurses and maintains the register of nurses.

1990 Move to train more nurses at colleges and universities, rather than at hospital-based schools.

1998 NHD Direct was established. this was a nurse-led telephone information service.

2001 Almost 50% of nurses were immigrants.

2002 Nurses were able to prescribe medication.

2002 Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) replaces the UKCC

2009 All nursing courses in the UK are to degree level.

2014 NHS111 replaces NHS Direct

2016 692,556 nurses are registered in the UK.