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**Title:** A Brave New World of Nursing: Our Profession’s Current & Future Role as Dr. Nurse

**Purpose:** The purpose of the lecture will provide the DNP the awareness to educate nurses, and other healthcare professionals, regarding the degree preparation in an effort to effectively and proactively respond to dispute regarding the use of the title Doctor.

**Objective 1:** 1. Articulate the meaning and history of the title doctor.

**Objective 2:** 2.3. Describe the differences and common ground with the AACN and the AMA viewpoint using the title of doctor.

**Objective 3:** Describe how to effectively rebuttal arguments against the use of the title doctor by a doctorally prepared nurse.

**Abstract:**

Should a nurse be called doctor? Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is generating great discussion on the issue of titling. The phrase Doctor of Nursing Practice has instigated debate between the nursing and medical professional setting. Perceptions from the public, medical physicians, multidisciplinary professionals, and nurses themselves have stimulated the debate. An understanding of the background and history of doctor will provide wise insight between the academic achievement and defining a professional role in practice.

A national report from the Institute of Medicine describes advanced practice and knowledge is necessary to promote patient safety and minimize errors in a healthcare setting. The American College of Nursing (AACN) made a bold stand in creating the DNP in response to the patient safety measurements. Nursing is not alone in the exploration and development of a clinical or practice doctorate.

The American Medical Association (AMA) has identified use of the professional title of "Doctor" as a topic for legislative initiative as they attempt to preserve the title of doctor for the medical profession. The topic of titling sparks vigorous but respectful debate in the nursing community about ethical aspects of the DNP degree and its expanded nursing roles. This healthy debate mandates DNPâ€™s to formulate proactive, informed, professional responses when faced with using the title Doctor. Nurses propose to use the title of Doctor as an academic achievement not as a role definition. DNP needs to educate nurses, staff, physicians, and the public regarding the title Doctor. As nursing changes, let us not cling to the ways of old, but rather actively move toward our future: Dr. Nurse

NOTE: This topic is best as a presentation; however, this could be made into a poster if it would better serve your needs. Thank you for your consideration.