Informatics has been called the intersection where health and information technology meet. Informatics connects healthcare professionals with information they need to both promote and provide a higher quality of care, as well as patient safety. This program is the first in a three-part series that provides an overview of the essential elements of nursing informatics, and how informatics can be used with a focus on patient care. After viewing the program, the learner will be able to:

- Define nursing informatics
- Describe how the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act spurred the growth of electronic medical records
- Explain the difference between computer hardware and software
- Describe five general types of informatics technology used for patient care.

Nursing Informatics/Complex Applications (Kathleen A. McCormick)
Educational Applications (Diane J. Skiba)
Research Applications (Virginia K. Saba)
Big Data Initiatives (Kathleen A. McCormick)
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Essentials of Nursing Informatics is the best single resource for learning how technology can make the nursing experience as rewarding and successful as possible.

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