

Session 2.14
NNN Track

Abstract Title:

Translating Theory and Research into Practice: Domain 12 Comfort

Presenters:

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Intended Audiences:

Educators, Clinicians, Informaticists, Administrators

Areas of Focus:

Classification Development, Research, Use in Practice, Use in Education, Linking or Integrating Nursing Language, Evidence-Based Practice

Research Format:

For Non-Research Reports

TOPIC: Domain 12 Comfort in Taxonomy II (2007-2008) should be a repository of nursing theory and knowledge about patient/family comfort. Translation of current comfort theory and research evidence into nursing practice and documentation can be facilitated by revising Domain 12.

BACKGROUND: From an extensive literature review, Kolcaba diagrammed the content domain of client comfort in the form of a 12-cell grid (1991). This grid has been used to generate questionnaires and clinical measures of client comfort including several translations in foreign languages. Strong psychometric properties of the instruments enabled detection of significantly higher levels of comfort in clients receiving comforting interventions (Kolcaba & Fox, 1999; Dowd, Kolcaba, & Steiner, 2000; Kolcaba, Dowd, Steiner, & Mitzel, 2004; Kolcaba, Scirm, & Steiner, 2006; Wagner, Byrne, & Kolcaba, 2006; Dowd, Kolcaba, Steiner, & Fashinpaour, 2007). Currently, the authors are engaged in the development of comfort-related nursing interventions (NICs) and nursing outcomes (NOC, 1997, 2008 in press) including linkages among comfort-related NANDAs, NOCs and NICs.

DESCRIPTION: Domain 12 Comfort has three classes: Class 1 Physical Comfort; Class 2 Environmental Comfort; and Class 3 Social Comfort. To be consistent with Comfort Theory and research, proposals about class labels are: Class 4 Psychospiritual Comfort, a new class; Class 3, relabeled from Social Comfort to Sociocultural Comfort. Revised definitions are proposed for Domain 12 Comfort and the classes. Rationale for these additions/revisions, based in current Comfort Theory and evidence, will be presented along with a comfort diagnosis example using the NANDA-I model of nursing diagnosis.

CONCLUSIONS: The proposed revisions provide an improved fit between nursing theory and research and the Comfort Domain and classes. Consistency among the comfort domain and classes facilitates knowledge dissemination in the area of implementation science in health services research. Implications for future use of nursing terminologies for translating research into practice will be discussed in terms of global communication.

Citations:

All citations may be found at www.thecomfortline.com