

**Session 4.12**  
**NNN Track**

**Abstract Title:**

Participant Action Research with Nurses to Identify NANDA, NIC and NOC Categories for Care of People with Diabetes and Women in Labor

**Presenters:**

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**Intended Audiences:**

Educators, Clinicians, Informaticists, Administrators, Researchers

**Areas of Focus:**

Research, Use in Practice, Linking or Integrating Nursing Language

**Research Format:**

For Non-Research Reports

**TOPIC:** The purpose of this paper is to describe the action research methods used for a study with two groups of experienced nurses in one hospital setting.

**BACKGROUND:** The selection of nursing diagnoses, nursing interventions and patient outcomes from the NANDA, NIC, and NOC (NNN) classifications are important for clinical practice because these research-based categories represent three nursing care elements of the Nursing Minimum Data Set. Selection of categories from NNN is needed for development of standards of care and for the design of population-specific products in electronic health records. As electronic health records become mandated, the selection of these categories for use with specific populations will be essential for development of nursing services.

**DESCRIPTION:** The investigators of this study used action research methods for consensus validation by practicing nurses of NNN categories that are relevant for two populations, people with diabetes and women in labor. Action research is a method of inquiry that involves people at grassroots levels in decision making processes for knowledge generation. Use of this method requires special considerations in respect to protection of human subjects. The essential aspects of this method will be presented, along with a comprehensive bibliography. For this study, consensus validation of NNN categories involved 3-4 experienced nurses meeting regularly for one hour or more with a clinical/research leader to select the categories from each classification system that are considered relevant for quality-based care. 100% consensus was required; this involved critical thinking and group collaboration. After the categories from NANDA were selected, the categories from NIC were selected, and matched with the NANDA categories. Then the NOC categories were selected and matched. The final product was designed to be a coordinated list of NNN categories that were essential for care of these specific populations in this institution. Nurses are ideal participants in action research because they have a wealth of clinical experiences to contribute to knowledge generation, and ongoing desire to improve patient care.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Besides consensus validation studies, the participant action research methods described in this paper can be used by nurses for many different types of research studies. Participant action research methods are recommended, for example, to be used with vulnerable populations to identify the best approaches to serve their needs.

**Citations:**

Levn, R., Lunney, M. & Krainovich-Miller, B. (2005). Improving diagnostic accuracy using an evidenced-based nursing model. *International Journal of Nursing Terminologies and Classifications*, 15(4), 114-122.  
Carlson-Catalano, J., & Lunney, M. (1995). Quantitative methods for clinical validation of nursing diagnoses. *Clinical Nurse Specialist: The Journal of Advanced Nursing Practice*, 9, 306-311.  
Dougherty, C.M., Jankins, J.K., Lunney, M., & Whitley, G. (1993). Conceptual and research-based validation of nursing diagnoses: 1950-1993. *Nursing Diagnosis*, 4, 156-165.