

Session 6.8
NNN Track

Abstract Title:

Most Frequent Nursing Diagnoses and Interventions Identified in a Brazilian Intensive Care Unit

Presenters:

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Intended Audiences:

Educators, Clinicians

Areas of Focus:

Classification Development, Research, Use in Practice

Research Format:

For Research Reports

PURPOSE: To identify the most frequent nursing diagnosis and interventions established in the daily clinical practice in an Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

METHODS: Data for the present study derive from a broader descriptive cross-sectional study, performed in an ICU of an University Hospital in the city of Porto Alegre/Brazil. All patients admitted to the ICU during a 6 month's period were included in the study sample. Data were collected retrospectively, using the hospital's electronic database. Analyses used descriptive statistics and cross-mapping between each nursing care action prescribed and the NIC interventions.

FINDINGS: 991 admissions of 841 different patients have occurred in the period. Each admission had a means of 6,9 nursing diagnoses. The six most frequent nursing diagnoses were Bathing/Hygiene self-care deficit, Risk for infection, Impaired physical mobility, Ineffective breathing pattern, Impaired spontaneous ventilation and Risk for impaired skin integrity. For all these six nursing diagnoses, 19.490 nursing care actions were prescribed, comprising 212 types, which were mapped into 119 nursing interventions (NIC). Some of the nursing care actions prescribed, as well as the mapped interventions (NIC), have been described for more than one single nursing diagnosis. Therefore, once repeated items were excluded, 149 different nursing care actions and 57 different nursing interventions (NIC) were identified. Most nursing interventions were part of physiological complex and physiological basic NIC domains, and described in the Classification as priority and suggested nursing interventions for problem resolution. The following were among the most frequent interventions (NIC) identified: Bathing, Oral health maintenance, Vital signs monitoring, Wound care, Fluid/electrolyte management, Infection control, Positioning, Skin surveillance, Pressure ulcer care, Respiratory monitoring, Oxygen therapy, Ventilation assistance, Mechanical ventilation, Artificial airway management, Airway suctioning and Bed rest care.

DISCUSSION: Study's findings demonstrate the importance of professional competence among intensive care nurses in order to establish accurate nursing diagnoses and interventions, since such activity demands knowledge and ability to better achieve the results. The group of diagnoses and interventions identified can be used to refine care plans and to implement electronic information systems.

CONCLUSIONS: Results demonstrate that the most frequent nursing diagnoses identified in an ICU are similar to those found in nurses' daily practice, and most interventions are part of physiological complex and physiological basic NIC domains.

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