

Conceptual Framework

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Conceptual and Theoretical Framework in Nursing Research

- 1. Definition of Nursing Theory
- 2. Definition of Concepts
- 3. Theoretical Framework
- 4. Conceptual Framework
- 5. Examples of Nursing Theories



1. THEORY

Definitions:

An organized and systematic articulation of a set of statements related to questions in a discipline that are communicated in a meaningful whole.




Continue

- Its purpose is to describe (set forth what is), explain (account for how it functions), predict (under what conditions it occurs), and prescribe (under what conditions it should occur).



Definition of Nursing theory - Wikipedia

 Nursing theory is the term given to the body of knowledge that is used to support nursing practice. In their professional education nurses will study a range of interconnected subjects which can be applied to the practice setting.



Continued:

- This knowledge may be derived from experimental learning, from experiential learning, from formal sources such as nursing research or non-research sources.



Types of Theories

- Descriptive theories
- Explanatory theories
- Predictive theories
- Prescriptive theories



Descriptive Theories

- Describe characteristics of phenomena by describing the discrete characteristics found. Identifies properties and components and circumstances under which it occurs. It sorts out meaning and observations. It is not action oriented and does not produce a situation



Example of Descriptive Theory

- Describing the caring behaviors in a group of elderly patients



Explanatory Theories

- Determine relationships among the dimensions of the phenomena. Identifies how the properties and components relate to each other



Example of Explanatory Theories

- Influence of age, coping behavior, and self care on adolescent diabetic patients' management of their chronic illness.



Predictive Theories

- Predict relationships between the characteristics of the phenomena



Example of Predictive Theories

- Effect of a relaxation technique to the amount of dyspnea experienced in patients with COD



Prescriptive Theories

- Addresses nursing therapeutics and the consequences of interventions. It designates the prescription and its components and the conditions under which the prescription should occur .



Example of Prescriptive Theories

- There are certain post-operative behaviors with different strategies of pre/postoperative teaching. The theory would explain what to do pre-operatively to bring about the desired behavior .



2. Concepts

- A term or label to describe aspects of reality that can be consciously sensed or experienced .
- The term or description given to events, situations or processes.
- Evidenced that is sense-based or grouped together through thought connections



Definition of construct

- A term or label invented by the researcher for a specific purpose to describe a phenomena. In other words, it is a summary of thoughts related to a phenomenon. An example: the construct of jet lag which describes the concept of disturbance in mood and habits



Variables and Measure

■ Variables : A more precise operation of the concepts

■ Measures : A more precise operation of the variable



Propositions

Propositions: Tentative suggestion that a specific relationship exists. Propositions identify linkages between constructs



Relationship between construct, concept, variables and measures

Construct	adversity	Coping
Concepts	illness Symptoms	Appraisal action
Variables	Symptom transition scale	Appraisal threat subscale
Measure	Symptom transition Score	threat score

3)Theoretical Framework

- Provides the structure for examining a problem: serves as guide to examine relationships between variables.
- A theoretical framework refers to brief explanation of a theory or those portions of a theory to be tested in a study.
- A theoretical framework is a collection of interrelated concepts that help in determining what things you will measure , and what statistical relationships you will look for



Conceptual Framework

- A conceptual framework occurs when a researcher links concepts from literature to establish evidence to support the need for the research question
- A conceptual framework is used in research to outline possible course of action or present a preferred approach to a system analysis project.
- The framework is built from a set of concepts linked to a planned or existing system of methods behaviors, functions, relationships, and objects.



Conceptual framework - continue

- A Conceptual framework might be thought of as a relational model.
- A framework is simply the structure of the idea or concept and how it is put together.



Selecting concepts

- Is based on relevance to phenomenon of concern
- Must have a concept for every major variable in study
- Include concepts from purpose statement
- Examine problem statement for relevant concepts/



Sources of conceptual definitions

- Existing theoretical works
- Published concept analyses
- Previous studies using the concepts
- Publications describing instrument development
- General literature
- Performing a concept analysis



Nursing Models

- Nursing models are conceptual models, constructed of theories and concepts. They are used to help nurses assess , plan and implement patient care by providing a framework within which to work
- All nursing models involve some method of assessing a client's individual needs and implementing appropriate client care
- An essential portion of each nursing model id measurable goals
- Four concepts that comprise each nursing model are: Person, health, environment and nursing



Examples & references of some nursing Theorists as follows:

- Virginia Henderson
- Imogene King
- Betty Neuman
- Dorothea Oram
- Hildegard Peplau
- Martha Rogers
- Calista Roy

