



NURSING ASSISTANCE SYSTEMATIZATION: TERMS, THEORETICAL REFERENTIAL AND PHASES OF NURSING PROCESS

SISTEMATIZAÇÃO DA ASSISTÊNCIA DE ENFERMAGEM: TERMOS, REFERENCIAIS TEÓRICOS E FASES DO PROCESSO DE ENFERMAGEM

SISTEMATIZACIÓN DE LA ASISTENCIA DE ENFERMERÍA: TÉRMINOS, REFERENCIAS TEÓRICOS Y FASES DEL PROCESO DE ENFERMERÍA

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ABSTRACT

Objective: to identify in the dissertations related to the theme Systematization of Nursing Assistance (SAE), developed and approved in a Post-graduate Program in Nursing, the terms related to the theme, the theoretical referential and the phases of Nursing Process most used. **Method:** Documentary research in which the following research questions were developed: *What are the terms related to the issue of SAE used in dissertations developed and approved in the Post-Graduate Program in Nursing at Universidade Federal da Paraíba? What are the theoretical frameworks used? What are the phases of nursing process addressed in these studies?* **Results:** the term related to the most used theme was Nursing process. **Conclusion:** it is considered that the Post-Graduate Program has performed a key role in building expertise in the area, encouraging the systematic care and its applicability to professional practice in various scenarios in which nursing care occurs. **Descriptors:** Nursing; Nursing Process; Nursing Research.

RESUMO

Objetivo: identificar nas dissertações relacionadas à temática Sistematização da Assistência de Enfermagem (SAE), desenvolvidas e aprovadas em um Programa de Pós-Graduação em Enfermagem, os termos relacionados ao tema, os referenciais teóricos e as fases do Processo de Enfermagem mais utilizados. **Método:** pesquisa do tipo documental para a qual foram elaboradas as seguintes questões de pesquisa: *Quais termos relacionados à temática da SAE são utilizados nas dissertações de mestrado desenvolvidas e aprovadas no Programa de Pós-Graduação em Enfermagem da Universidade Federal da Paraíba? Quais os referenciais teóricos nelas utilizados? Quais as fases do Processo de Enfermagem abordadas nesses estudos?* **Resultados:** o termo relacionado ao tema mais utilizado foi Processo de Enfermagem. **Conclusão:** a Pós-Graduação tem realizado um papel fundamental na construção de conhecimentos específicos da área, favorecendo a sistematização do cuidado e a sua aplicabilidade na prática profissional nos mais variados cenários em que ocorre a assistência de enfermagem. **Descritores:** Enfermagem; Processos de Enfermagem; Pesquisa em Enfermagem.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: identificar las disertaciones de mestrado relacionadas con el tema de la Sistematización de la Asistencia de Enfermería (SAE), desarrolladas y aprobadas en un Programa de Postgrado en Enfermería, los términos relacionados con el tema, referencias teóricos y las fases del Proceso de Enfermería más comúnmente utilizado. **Método:** estudio del tipo documental en los que el material empírico compuesto 47 disertaciones preparados para el período 1982 a 2009. Los datos fueron recolectados de enero a marzo de 2010, a través de la lectura sistemática de los documentos seleccionados para el estudio. **Resultados:** los resultados indican que el término relacionado con el tema más utilizado fue el Proceso de Enfermería. **Conclusión:** considera que el graduado ha desempeñado un papel clave en la construcción de conocimientos en el área, fomentando la atención sistemática y su aplicabilidad a la práctica profesional en diversos escenarios en los que se produce la atención de enfermería. **Descriptor:** Enfermería; Procesos de Enfermería; Investigación en Enfermería.

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INTRODUCTION

The need to name the phenomena of interest for nursing and define its concepts come from the beginning of Modern Nursing, and recorded in the writings of Nightingale in 1859, in which she claimed that nursing was unaware of the elements, concepts or phenomena specific, thus indicating an incipient need of different knowledge from those ones of medicine.¹ After the research in Florence, Nursing had considerable advance in the field of knowledge, seeking care in the development of convergent bases of Science and Art, but it also sought to systematize their knowledge through a standardized language that could underpin their practical in the empirical, aesthetic, personal and ethical knowledge.

For the communication of knowledge among professionals occurs effectively, nursing has tried to develop its own terminology, identifying and defining specific terms used in the area, as well as grounding, strengthening and legitimizing its existence as a science. For this, it was assisted with the development of tools that provide the representation of specialized technical and scientific knowledge in an organized way through the production of technical dictionaries, glossaries, manuals, among other instruments, in addition to unify this knowledge by the use of rules and standards.²

The appropriation of this knowledge by nurses provided over the years the development of concepts and theories that have guided their practice, favoring the construction of the nurses' professional identity and the domain field of the profession. It is noteworthy that the nursing theories provide structure and organization of nursing knowledge; provide systematic collection of information to describe, explain and predict the practice; determine the purpose of practice (goals and outcomes) and promote a less fragmented care.³ Nevertheless, they are influenced by the experience of nurses, the care receiver's needs and also the social, environmental and cultural context.

Among the important contributions of nursing theories and structure to support the practice of nurses the Nursing Process stands out, understood as the method in which the concepts of the theory are applied to this practice with a view to prevent, or minimizing solution of problems patient, resulting in the systematization of nursing care. In this context, the Nursing Care Systematization

(NCS) is a scientific methodology that the nurse has to apply their know-how and human resources in the provision of patient care, guided by the ethical commitment, responsibility and take care of other one.⁴

As a precursor to the incorporation of NCS on the stage of nursing practice in Brazil, the Regional Nursing Council of São Paulo (Conselho Regional de Enfermagem de São Paulo) in the late 1990s, sought to clarify the complex interactive and intellectual domains of care in determining the requirement for its implementation in all public and private institutions that offer nursing services throughout São Paulo.⁵ Then, this requirement was extended to the national level with the Resolution of Federal Council of Nursing - Conselho Federal de Enfermagem (COFEN) 272/2002, which caused great interest of traders and nursing students by advocating the Systematization of Nursing Care in the Brazilian health institutions.⁶

The Resolution 358/2009 of the COFEN, which provides for the Systematization of Nursing Care and implementation of nursing process environments, public or private place where nursing care professionals, updated and corrected some distortions concepts contained in Resolution above, as the fact of considering the Systematization of Nursing Care Nursing Process and activities peculiar to the nurse.⁷

Although these devices demanding a legal obligation of nurses to the implementation of the NCS, the application of this methodology as a scientific instrument of assistance work has encountered difficulties due to internal and external obstacles to Nursing, among which they were stood out the institutional structures, the agents of nursing's process of work, the logic of prioritizing individualized and curative medical care, how their learning takes place in the undergraduate, and the inapplicability of the nursing process in hospitals that are places of stage in the schools.^{4,8-10}

However, another difficulty for the implementation of the NCS by nurses with regard to the existence of several conflicts in relation to their vocabulary in Nursing, which has prevented its adequate understanding, the decentralization of the biomedical model of care, as well as the delimitation of theoretical framework and the use of all phases of nursing process. The terms used to name the NCS, it is perceived in the national literature of the area under the Nursing Process, Nursing Inquiry, Nursing Care Methodology, Methodology of Nursing Care, Nursing Care Process, Process Watch, among

others, they are used with the same meaning in certain moments, and others are understood as distinct terms.

The professional practice of nursing, which often occurs in an unsystematic manner due to the resistance of professionals to modify their daily activities, technical and fragmented, needs to worry about the quality of care rather than predominantly confined to the demands of the service. Thus, as the leader of the nursing team and through the use of NCS the nurse must ensure appropriate and individualized care practice, so that the nursing diagnoses to identify the status of health / illness of individuals, resulting in a nursing care individual and integral, based on scientific knowledge. However, in order to have a harmonized nursing care, it is necessary to apply an NCS based on a specific theory that is known to all professionals who perform the institution's care.¹¹

Under this scenario, this research aims to examine the dissertations related to the theme of the Systematization of Nursing Care, developed and approved in the Post-Graduate Program in Nursing at the Universidade Federal da Paraíba, and check the terms, the theoretical and phases of nursing process that were most used. It is hoped that this study will provide reflection on the NCS that can effectively subsidize the systematized nursing care.

METHOD

Documentary research for which the following research questions were developed: *What are the terms related to the issue of NCS used in dissertations developed and approved in the Post-Graduate Program in Nursing at the Universidade Federal da Paraíba? What are the theoretical frameworks used? What are the phases of nursing process addressed in these studies?*

The empirical material involved 47 (100%) dissertations, developed between 1982 to 2009, which addressed the issue of NCS in their titles and / or summaries, located in the computerized database of the Post-Graduate mentioned. Data collection occurred from January to March in 2010, being operationalized thorough reading of papers in search of information on research issues. In the course of this reading it was elaborated a synoptic table were in which the terms related to SAE, the theoretical references guiding the work and the phases of the nursing process used were synthesized. Finally, such information was discussed quantitatively by means of procedures of descriptive statistics, frequency, percentages, and were discussed in light of relevant literature.

RESULTS

They defended and approved in the Program of Graduate Nursing, Universidade Federal da Paraíba, in the period 1982-2009, 235 essays, 47 of which had as their object the issue of NCS.

Table 1. Terms used in dissertations PPGENF / UFPB related to the theme of the Systematization of Nursing Care. João Pessoa-PB, 2010.

Terms*	Essays	%
Nursing process	28	68,3
Nursing theory	06	14,6
Nursing consultation	04	9,8
Systematization of Nursing Care	02	4,9
Methodology of Nursing Care	01	2,4
Total	41	100,0

*The essays, most of them have more than one term on the theme NCS.

The terms related to the theme and used in dissertations, Table 1 shows, respectively, the nursing process (28), nursing theory (06),

nursing (04), systematization of nursing care (02) and methodology nursing care (01) as the most relevant and timely set.

Table 2. Theoretical references related to the theme of the Systematization of Nursing Care. João Pessoa-PB, 2010.

Theoretical References	n	%
Theory of Horta's Basic Human Needs	22	46,8
Orem's Theory of Self Care	10	21,3
No reference	06	12,8
Roy's Adaptation Model	02	4,3
Systems Model by Betty Neuman	02	4,3
Model of Care by Jean Watson	01	2,1
Model Epidemiological Risk	01	2,1
Structural Model of Cancer Pain	01	2,1
Physiological model	01	2,1
Environmentalism Theory of Florence Nightingale	01	2,1
Total	47	100,0

Table 2 shows the distribution of the theoretical dissertations of mater's degree that used the theme Nursing Care System, with emphasis on the Theory of Basic Human Needs in Horta with 22 (46.8%) and Orem's Theory of Self Care with 10 (21.3%). Moreover,

it is remarkable that 6 (12.8%) of the dissertations, even using the Systematization of Nursing Care or some of the phases of nursing process, they have not shown a theoretical basis for the realization of this process.

Table 3. Stages of the Nursing Process used in dissertations related to the theme of the Systematization of Nursing Care. João Pessoa-PB, 2010.

Stages of the Nursing Process	n	%
History of nursing	08	17,0
History and Nursing Diagnosis	04	8,5
History and Implementation of nursing care	02	4,3
History, Diagnosis and Implementation of nursing care	03	6,3
History, Diagnosis and Evaluation of nursing care	04	8,5
Nursing diagnosis	05	10,6
Nursing Diagnosis and Intervention	06	12,8
Diagnosis and Evaluation of nursing care	02	4,3
Nursing diagnosis, implementation and evaluation of care	02	4,3
Nursing diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation of care	02	4,3
Implementation of Assistance	01	2,1
All phases of nursing process	07	14,9
No phase	01	2,1
Total	47	100,0

Table 3 shows the distribution of the phases of nursing process in the dissertations used the PPGENF / UFPB, defended in the period 1982 to 2009. We observe that in 7 (14.9%) of the papers used were all stages of the process, 8 (17%) using the phase history of nursing, 5 (10.6%) the diagnostic phase, and 01 (2 1%) used the implementation phase of care. It is worth mentioning that the diagnostic phase is present in almost all dissertations studied (74.5%), either as a single stage, sometimes with other phases of nursing process.

nursing care research to crave their daily lives as they realize that the unique association between care and research improves the quality of services and leads to professional self-confidence.¹³ Thus, over the years it emphasizes the growing concern of health professionals in the expansion and production of knowledge for the benefit of the customers (individuals, families and communities), acquiring thereby a promising professional development as teachers, researchers and / or caregivers.

For constituting the object of concern of nurses in the various spheres of activity (teaching, research and health care), nursing activities backed up on the scientific method and had as its focal point, the core or essence of the practice, development and implementation of the Process Nursing, an advertising professional working with a number of specific dynamic action and inter-related to its accomplishment, and indicating the adoption of a particular method or way of doing (Systematization of Nursing Care) based on a system of values and moral beliefs and technical and scientific knowledge in the area.¹⁴

Thus, the Brazilian scientific production on "Systematization of Nursing Care" accompanied these trends have an average production of 13.4 publications / year, with articles predominantly directed to the hospital.¹⁵ In this scenario, as it turned out, the PPGENF / UFPB also contributed to the development of research involving this issue.

In seeking the concepts associated with the theme of the Systematization of Nursing Care, the literature of the area shows that there are several terms associated with the subject,

DISCUSSION

The 47 dissertations analyzed represent 20% of dissertations developed and approved in PPGENF / UFPB, with an average of 1.7 papers per year over the 27 years studied, with greater frequency in the last two decades. During this period, there is the influence of expansion of the faculty of that program, with a consequent increase in the number of vacancies offered to form masters, favoring the achievement of this result.

Moreover, this fact may be related to the emphasis that has been given to the implementation of the Systematization of Nursing Care in these last two decades, the requirement of its use in health institutions Brazilian public and private, imposed by the Federal Council of Nursing - Conselho Federal de Enfermagem (COFEN), as well as the increased demand by the master of nurses, who seek to develop new skills to caring practices with new knowledge, forming (body) and life (spirit) to their practices with creativity, flexibility and reflection.¹²

On the other hand, those involved in direct

which have contributed to his job in a conflict in the vocabulary of the profession.¹⁴⁻¹⁷ The study results come against the findings in the literature, in which the concepts used were: Nursing Process, Nursing Care System, Methodology of Nursing Care and Nursing Consultation, especially the term defined in the Nursing Process 68.3% of the dissertations studied. However, we should highlight the fact that 15 (32.0%) of approved dissertations and do not present any definition for the terms related to SAE and used in the study.

Analyzing these terms and confronted them with the advances in knowledge about the care process, it is clear that the NCS is adequately addressed in the essays as a harmonic set of conceptual structure, process and people. The Nursing Process is stressed as the active phase of a nursing theory that helps agents make decisions, predict and evaluate the consequences systematically focusing on this practice meet the human needs of individuals, families and communities in various moments of the health-disease continuum. The Nursing Theory as a crucial tool both to clarify the complex interactive and intellectual domains inherent in the process of caring, understanding how to support these clients in identifying their problems or needs that require an effective intervention professional nursing.

On the other hand, the evolution of concepts over the years has brought a particular connotation for terms such as Nursing Consultation and Methodology of Nursing Care. Outside the setting of institutions providing services in hospital, and when care is dispensed in outpatient services, households, schools, community associations, factories, among others, the Nursing Process corresponds to these environments usually known as Nursing Consultation.⁷ The Methodology of Nursing Care, in turn, is a way to work with logic, being a component of the NCS.¹⁷

Meanwhile, the unique factors that the client and the nurse brings to the situation of health care are taken into consideration, critically analyzed, interpreted and named, allowing all actors of Nursing reflect on the factors that are most relevant and important to the situation of care. Furthermore, this concern reflects an iterative process in daily living and not restricted the use of equipment and structured knowledge, in order that their actions appear as processes of interventions, relations and subjectivities.¹⁸

Regarding the use of the theoretical dissertations that used the theme NCS, we

highlight the Theory of Basic Human Needs of Horta, which funded 22 (46.8%) dissertations, and the Theory of Orem Self-Care giving theoretical support to ten (21.3%) dissertations.

The most known and followed reference in the Brazilian scenario for the implementation of nursing process was proposed by Horta in 1979, considered the first nurse in Brazil to speak about Theory of Nursing and the profession awoken to the importance of using specific knowledge, fact consecrated as a precursor to the application of scientific methodology or the systematization of nursing care in nursing in Brazil.¹⁶ Her work initially involved the dissemination of theories for the U.S., soon after, launching the proposal of Basic Human Needs Theory and practice through its operation of the methodology of nursing care, ie, the Nursing Process, where the theoretical raised the idea of systematic thinking, reasoning, to lift the patient's problems, making this one already performed by nurses, however, intuitively and without records.^{8,12}

According the Resolution COFEN 358/2009⁷, the Nursing Process is organized into five steps interrelated, interdependent and applicants: 1) Collection of nursing (nursing or History), defined as a deliberate process, systematic and continuous, performed with the aid of various methods and techniques, which aims to obtain information about the person, family, or human community and on their responses in a given moment in health and disease process, 2) nursing diagnosis, defined as a process interpretation and collation of data collected in the first stage, culminating with the decision on nursing diagnoses concepts, 3) Planning nursing, which is the determination of the results to be achieved, and the actions or nursing interventions that will be conducted in comparison to the responses of the person, family, or human community at a given moment of the health and disease, identified in the stage of nursing diagnosis, 4) Implementation, considered the implementation of certain actions or interventions in the planning stage of nursing, and 5) Evaluation of nursing process understood as a deliberate, systematic and continuous verification of changes in the responses of the person, family, or human community in a given time of the health and disease, to determine if the actions or nursing interventions have achieved expected results and if there is need for changes or adjustments in steps of the nursing process.

In the results of the study it was clear that in 97.9% of the dissertations of master's

degree of PPGENF / UFPB analyzed, one or more of the phases outlined in the Resolution happened, with emphasis on the phase of the nursing diagnosis (74.5%) . Another study¹⁹ also indicates that concern for professionals working with human responses to pathological processes and ratifying still a reductionist view of human beings, especially in the hospital.

It can be inferred that the use of NCS as an organization of professional work in the method, staff and instruments, makes possible the operation of the nursing process, which guides the professional care and documentation of nursing practice. It follows also that this is indeed the most promising way for the development of nursing work, and that many nurses are combining tacit knowledge arising from practice with the knowledge scientifically constructed to thus identify the client or unmet needs inadequately answered, plan and implement actions and effective interventions, evaluating outcomes of care for which they are legally responsible, and finally to enable the proper documentation of the care they provide.

CONCLUSION

The results confirm the legitimacy of the NCS and highlights the term nursing process as the most frequently quoted and analyzed in the dissertations of master's degree of PPGENF/UFPB. Moreover, it is noteworthy that this program has performed an important role in building knowledge, promoting the systematic care, the universalization of the specific language of the profession and its applicability to professional practice in various settings in which nursing care occurs.

It is recognized that the NCS is a way of organizing the work of professional nursing, promoting the operation of the nursing process, which guides the provision of a comprehensive care to the individual, family or community. However, it is assumed that also constitutes a major challenge for nursing professionals and researchers contribute to the expansion of scientific knowledge in the subject, and its practical application in primary, secondary and tertiary.

Thus, we conclude that the major contribution of this study is outlined in the way that the knowledge produced by the students of master's degree in nursing on the theme NCS is portrayed and analyzed. And in this context, the dissemination of research tools that work with nursing's own stirs his agents to adopt practices more suited to

specific customers and carry out the nursing process in all its essence and conjuncture.

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Ramalho Neto JM, Bezerra PAP De L, Nóbrega MML da et al.

Nursing assistance systematization: terms...

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Ramalho Neto JM, Bezerra PAP De L, Nóbrega MML da et al.

Nursing assistance systematization: terms...

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