



Marjory Gordon

PhD, RN, FAAN

Dr. Marjory Gordon's seminal work on diagnostic reasoning is cited frequently as classic literature, but more importantly is a keystone of a significant change in health care systems today. Her vision for the use of standardized nursing languages has allowed nursing to move into the 21st century well-prepared for the use of electronic health records and with the knowledge to demonstrate and make visible the effectiveness and efficiency of nursing practice. Dr. Gordon's work and the work of others on diagnostic language have given voice and visibility to the significant role of nurses in practice. Language is available to articulate clinical decisions and to document the links of nursing intervention to health care outcomes.

She began her nursing career with a diploma from The Mt. Sinai Hospital School of Nursing in New York and quickly obtained leadership positions at that hospital. Dr. Gordon earned her bachelor of science and masters' of science degrees at Hunter College of the City University of New York and the PhD at Boston College. Early in her career, Dr. Gordon's research focused on clinical reasoning and judgment. Studies in this area continued within a significant 33-year teaching career in Boston, ten years at Boston University and 23 years at Boston College. Currently, as a Professor Emeritus at Boston College, Connell School of Nursing, she continues to write, as well as mentor, and consult both globally and locally.

As an author, Dr. Gordon has published four books, all of which have been translated, one into ten languages. Her *Manual of Nursing Diagnosis* is in its 12th edition. Dr. Gordon's numerous published articles and abstracts and international visibility have included consultation and workshops on every continent.

Dr. Gordon has just published a book on the Functional Health Pattern Assessment (FHP). Dr. Gordon's leadership has helped nurses communicate their unique contributions to patient care using the FHP framework to guide interventions, evaluate patient outcomes, and structure curriculum content. She remains to this day the international leader around this area of scholarship. Dr. Gordon held elected professional offices, including two-terms as President of NANDA-International. She became a member of the Academy in 1977. In addition, she has received many honors for her outstanding contributions including most recently, a Living Legend Award from the Massachusetts Association of Registered Nurses.