

## NURSING DIAGNOSIS: STATE OF THE ART

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## TRANSITIONS FROM MEDICAL FRAMEWORK TO NURSING FRAMEWORK FOR PRACTICE

FOR EXAMPLE  
BIOMEDICAL SYSTEMS  
ASSESSMENT  
TO FUNCTIONAL HEALTH  
PATTERNS

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## NURSING PROCESS AS A SET OF JUDGMENTS THAT USE CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

- DIAGNOSTIC JUDGMENT
- THERAPEUTIC JUDGMENT
- ETHICAL JUDGMENT

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## **VISIBILITY!**

In hospital records  
In health team conferences  
In hospital statistics

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**Without a language,  
nursing is invisible  
in health care systems and  
its  
value and importance go  
un-recognized and un-  
rewarded.  
(International Council of  
Nurses,1994)**

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**The clinical practice of  
nursing is**

**GONE  
WITHOUT A TRACE !**

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**THUS,**

**We never learn from the history of practice (on records) what interventions were effective or what clinical judgments were correct!**

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**Language Development**

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**Naming “things” permits identification and communication with others.**



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**LANGUAGE DEVELOPS  
WHEN PEOPLE THINK  
WHAT THEY DO AND WHAT  
THEY THINK ABOUT  
IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO  
DESCRIBE,  
DISCUSS, AND  
RECORD.**

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**NANDA, NIC, AND NOC  
ALLIANCE  
2002**

**FOR LANGUAGE  
DEVELOPMENT**

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**FOUR DOMAINS AND 28  
CLASSES CONTAIN**

155 NANDA DIAGNOSES  
486 NIC INTERVENTIONS  
260 NOC OUTCOMES

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## Nursing Classifications Today (Developed as Concepts)

- 155 Diagnoses (NANDA)
- 486 Interventions (NIC)
- 260 Outcomes (NOC)

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## 75 CONCEPTUAL AREAS OF DIAGNOSIS

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## FACTORS INFLUENCING LANGUAGE AND CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

- CHANGES IN THE HEALTH CARE  
SYSTEM
- DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN  
PATIENT POPULATIONS
- NURSING SCIENCE DEVELOPMENT

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Nursing Diagnoses,  
Interventions, and Outcomes  
are the building blocks of  
Nursing Science

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### FACTORS INFLUENCING LANGUAGE AND CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT<sub>CONTINUED</sub>

- COMPUTERIZATION OF CLINICAL RECORDS
- TEACHING CLINICAL JUDGMENT AND COMMON DIAGNOSES

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### Diagnostic Concepts versus Diagnostic Codes

- Codes have labels
- Concepts have  
Labels,  
Definitions,  
Characteristics, and  
Related Factors

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**Agency For Health Care  
Policy  
National Guidelines For Practice  
N=812+**

**Examples:  
Pain, Incontinence,  
Pressure Ulcer, Depression**

<[WWW.guidelines.gov](http://WWW.guidelines.gov)>

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**ANALYTICAL JUDGMENT**  
(Logical reasoning)

**NON-ANALYTICAL JUDGMENT**  
(intuition)

**CONDITIONAL REASONING**  
(If A then B)

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## **DIAGNOSTIC PROCESS COMPONENTS**

- INFORMATION COLLECTION
- INFORMATION ANALYSIS
- INFORMATION SYNTHESIS
- DIAGNOSTIC JUDGEMENT

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**INFORMATION COLLECTION  
USING  
FUNCTIONAL HEALTH  
PATTERNS ASSESSMENT  
FORMAT**

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**ELEVEN FUNCTIONAL HEALTH PATTERNS**

- 1.HEALTH PERCEPTION-HEALTH MANAGEMENT PATTERN
- 2.NUTRITIONAL -METABOLIC PATTERN
- 3.ELIMINATION PATTERN
- 4.ACTIVITY-EXERCISE PATTERN
- 5.SLEEP-REST PATTERN
- 6.COGNITIVE-PERCEPTUAL PATTERN
- 7.SELF PERCEPTION-SELF CONCEPT PATTERN
- 8.ROLE-RELATIONSHIP PATTERN
- 9.SEXUALITY-REPRODUCTIVE PATTERN
- 10.COPING-STRESS TOLERANCE PATTERN
- 11.VALUE-BELIEF PATTERN

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**FUNCTIONAL HEALTH  
PATTERNS: ICELANDIC**

- 1.Heilbrig-isvi-horf, skynjun eigin heilbrig-is og heilbrig isstjórnun
- 2.Næring og hú\_
- 3.Útskilna\_ur
- 4.Sjálfbjargageta, hreyfing, virkni og \_jálfun
- 5.Svefn og hvíld
- 6.Vitsmunir og skynjun
- 7.Sjálfsmynd og \_ekking
- 8.Hlutverk og félagsleg tengsl
- 9.Kynlíf og barnelgnir
- 10.A\_lögun og streitu\_ol
- 11.Sko\_anir, gildismat og trú

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## Functional Health Patterns: Dutch

1. **Patroon van gezondheidsbeleving en instandhouding**
2. **Voedings-enstofwisselingspatroon**
3. **Uitscheidingspatroon**
4. **Activiteitenpatroon**
5. **Slaap-rustpatroon**
6. **Cognitie-en waarnemingspatroon**
7. **Zelfbelevingspatroon**
8. **Rollen-en relatiespatroon**
9. **Seksualiteits-en voortplantingspatroon**
10. **Stressverwerkingspatroon**
11. **Waarden-en levensovertuigingenpatroon**

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## QUESTIONABLE “NURSING” DIAGNOSES

- IMPAIRED GAS EXCHANGE
- DECREASED CARDIAC OUTPUT
- INEFFECTIVE TISSUE PERFUSION (SEE TYPES)
- DECREASED INTRACRANIAL ADAPTIVE CAPACITY
- EXCESS FLUID VOLUME

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## CONTEXTUAL FACTORS THAT INDIVIDUALIZE ASSESSMENT AND DIAGNOSIS

- AGE/DEVELOPMENTAL STAGE
- GENDER
- CULTURE
- DISEASE, IF PRESENT

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**GENERATING  
POSSIBILITIES  
(TO EXPLAIN ASSESSMENT DATA)**

**HYPOTHESIS  
GENERATION  
(DIVERGENT THINKING)**

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**RECOGNIZING A CUE  
INDICATING A  
POSSIBLE  
PROBLEM OR RISK STATE  
SHIFTS THE NURSE INTO  
THE DIAGNOSTIC PROCESS**

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**Types of Defining  
Characteristics**

- \_ Diagnostic cues  
(critical defining characteristics,  
criteria for a diagnosis)
- \_ Supporting cue (characteristics  
that support a judgment)

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Cue+Cue +Nursing Judgment  
=Possibilities To Be  
Investigated

INFORMATION CLUSTERING  
AND ANALYSIS----  
HYPOTHESIS GENERATION  
(DIVERGENT THINKING)

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USE KNOWLEDGE OF  
DIAGNOSES AND THEIR  
DEFINING  
CHARACTERISTICS TO  
IDENTIFY POSSIBILITIES

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Cue+Cue+Cue+Nursing  
Judgment =Diagnosis

POSSIBILITIES CHECKED  
OUT----COLLECT MORE  
INFORMATION!

HYPOTHESIS TESTING  
(CONVERGENT THINKING)

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**LIKE DETECTIVE WORK!**



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### **Rules**

**If it is a bird , it has  
to have feathers  
and wings**



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### **“RULES” FOR USING CONCEPTS**

**If self feeding deficit, what  
has to be present?**

**If body image disturbance,  
what has to be present?**

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## **INTUITION AND PATTERN RECOGNITION**

(NON-ANALYTICAL  
PROCESSES)

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## **THREE FACTORS**

1. AMOUNT OF EXPERIENCE
2. SITUATIONAL REQUIREMENTS
3. THE DIAGNOSTIC TASK

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## **DIAGNOSTIC STATEMENT**

### **PROBLEM -ETIOLOGY**

Use Knowledge of Causal  
Relations  
(what causes what?)

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Mr. B is an 82 year old unmarried, former teacher. He has marked weakness in his left and dominant arm following a cerebrovascular accident. He is alert and lives alone.

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Miss C, a 25 year old secretary, is admitted for diagnostic work-up. She has enlarged and tender axillary lymph nodes and a low grade fever. She complains of difficulty falling asleep last two nights.

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**Low professional nurse staffing levels were associated with higher rates of serious complications**

(urinary tract infections, pneumonia, sepsis, deep vein thrombosis, upper G.I. Bleeding, shock, cardiac arrest mad some deaths from these complications)

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**<6 million patients  
(Needleman, et al, 2002)**

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**How can the findings be  
explained?  
What are nurses doing?**

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**“Increased numbers of  
practical nurses or nurses’  
aides, alone, did not insure  
that these complications were  
prevented.” (Needleman,et al,  
2003)**

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How do we explain these results?

Was it just the number of nurses  
present?

Or were they doing something?  
If so, what?

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DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF  
TOTAL NURSING STAFF WAS  
ASSOCIATED WITH GREATER  
INCIDENCE OF PRESSURE  
SORES, FALLS, PNEUMONIA,  
AND INFECTIONS (Unruh, 2003)

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COULD IT BE THAT:

Clinicians have not demanded  
that their contribution to health  
care should be visible and  
taken into account?

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**Without a language,  
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Mr. A., a 72 year old, former architect, has returned to the Blue Dale Nursing Home after a total hip replacement. He has been on bedrest for two weeks and is very reluctant to move in bed. He complains of severe discomfort in his lower back.

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