COMPREHENSIVE NURSING CARE: CONCEPT ANALYSIS WITH THE EVOLUTIONARY APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Field and Target: Comprehensive nursing care has always been one of the main arguments of nursing profession. One simple definition of Holism is that whole of one thing is more than the sum of its components. The aim of this study was that clarification of the concept of comprehensive nursing care to reaching a common understanding and having a clinical guideline and prevention of ambiguity in the application of this concept. Methods: Rodgers evolutionary approach was used in this study. Books and articles of 1970-2016 were searched on the concept of nursing care in health sciences, especially nursing from scientific databases. After applying the selection criteria and final sampling, 9 books and 69 articles were selected and were analyzed deeply. Results: The results showed that features of the concept of comprehensive nursing care include whole of human dimensions (physical - spiritual - psychological) and harmony. The antecedents of the concept include: spirituality, religion, being supernatural, belief in God, attention to God, hope, necessity of life, purpose, need, relation of imbalance or lack of harmony, backed up, be accountable and manage the environment and positive consequences include: the creation of patient-centered care, the creation of cultural care, wellbeing feeling of spiritual, harmony, healing, satisfaction, development of interpersonal relationships and a sense of nurse job satisfaction and negative consequences include: excessive attention to self, emotional exhaustion, burnout, depersonalization, emotional illness, low self-esteem and self-eficacy of patient, stress, confusion in its application that leads to different interpretation of the concept. By studying the texts we can see that comprehensive nursing care is in changeable form over time and in different issues, for these reason different definitions of comprehensive nursing care is provided in nursing science and health care. Therefore, awareness of attributes, antecedents and consequences of the concept of comprehensive nursing care leads to the position of nurses, clinical guide of clinical nursing and changing their attitude.

Keywords: comprehensive nursing care, concept analysis, Rodgers evolutionary approach

INTRODUCTION

Comprehensive nursing care has always been one of the main arguments of nursing profession. One simple definition of Holism is that whole of one thing is more than the sum of its components [1], [2], [3]. Holism is dependent to study of the whole or of the whole system [4] and holism emphasis is that people were considered as a whole rather than are broken to their components and whole include components that interact with together and are dependent together [5]. In this regard, Nussbaum considered that whole includes body, spirit and mind and believes that Holism is concept that both aspect of physical and spiritual-psychological performance participate with each other in it [6].

Hence Holism is a continuous and ongoing concept and therefore nurse should be Comprehensive [7]. Nursing is comprehensive in its nature and consider people as a whole with the relationship between body, mind and spirituality [8]. Comprehensive nursing care is composition of body, psyche and spirit into care [9]. Comprehensive nursing refers to comprehensive performance of nurse that it's aim is comprehensive improvement of patient and nurse uses comprehensive care for enhancing the relationship between body, spirit, emotions, mind and environment to promote healing, completeness and well-being of the patient [10]. This principle refers to Rodgers' humanistic theory and the unique nature of mankind. Rodgers believes that the world is a unique whole in which every element is associated with another and this description implies that the role of the nurse is that consider each individual and the patient as a unique person [11]. As valid definition, Comprehensive Nurses Association of America, defines comprehensive nurse as: comprehensive nurses are nurses that their aim is enhancing the health of the person as a whole, from birth to death [12] and aim of comprehensive nursing is help to the patient to accept their responsibility and take responsibility of care of themselves [13]. According to the above definitions, the benefits of comprehensive nursing is that increases awareness feeling about yourself and individual consciousness and leads to promote self-care and health and has established a connection between mind and spirit that this distinguishes the work of these nurses from other nurses. Comprehensive nurses involve healing concept during the transition from the stage of birth to death. Comprehensive nurse can increase well-being sense and personal control in patients [14]. Comprehensive care causes restoring power and responsibility, increasing of self-awareness of patient, increasing of empathy between nurses and patients, creation of self-esteem and self-efficacy of patient that will improve the quality of life and satisfaction of patient [15] and will improve satisfaction and health of patient [13]. Comprehensive Nursing may include the use of music therapy, guided simulation, muscle relaxation, therapeutic message, pray, play therapy, spirituality and social skills [16], [17], [18], [19], [20], [21].

In emphasis of above content, the care theory emphasizes on this assumption that the nurse should be able to understand that how the patient thinks about his illness and the nurse should be able to understand the negative experiences of patient and his/her feelings and to achieve this aim, nursing care must be comprehensive, this means that pay attention to all dimensions of patient and at the same time while cares patient physically, pay attention to psychological, social, cultural, economic aspects[22].

Given that Comprehensive refers to multiple nature of human and is formed from body, spirit and spirituality and emotion, disharmony in each dimension will cause imbalance and disease and considering whole together is necessary for efforts to restore the balance and the nurse can facilitate this process with changing internal and external to meet the needs of physical and spiritual and psychological. So comprehensive nursing care should include health promotion behaviors and cares the person as a whole [23], [24].

By studying the texts we can see that comprehensive nursing care is widely supported by the philosophies having health care approach but the lack of its clear definition causes creation of confusion in its application that leads to different interpretation of the concept of comprehensive care. However, different meaning of comprehensive nursing care will be created due to the widespread presence of biomedical systems and health
The initial search results was 108 articles that in compliance with the entry criteria and remove duplicates was reduced to 92 articles. In the final stage, 69 articles that include "comprehensive nursing care" and "Concept Analysis" in their title or abstract and was available in full text or abstract and were in nursing fields and other fields of health sciences (including medicine and psychiatric) were selected. Also, 9 books was used in the process of analysis to covering conceptual issues. Books and articles were carefully reviewed and studied. An inductive analysis of data from comprehensive nursing care concept was done and themes were identified. Intelligence units include words and sentences related to or answers given the following questions: What are the specific characteristics of comprehensive nursing care? How is comprehensive Nursing Care defined? How does comprehensive nursing care manifested? What factors are associated with the occurrence of comprehensive nursing care? How does comprehensive nursing care measured? What are the consequences or results of comprehensive nursing care? Articles were classified based on the conceptual analysis profile that has been dealt with. For example, the articles that measured the concept of comprehensive nursing care were placed together in a group and were classified as an information commons summary. The analysis process was done by two nursing experts in the analyzing the concept fields in order to ensure impartiality, credibility and reduce bias.

Table 1: Process stages of analyze of Rodgers evolutionary concept.

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Source: Evolutionary concept analysis activities(Rodgers, 2000, p.85)

Methodology

While there are several methods for carry out the analysis concept [28], Rogers evolutionary approach is appropriate for the analysis of the concept of comprehensive nursing care because it depends on the context and is interpreted only when different components is provided in a particular context [29]. In this approach, although the activities of the sextet preliminary is recommended for study (Table number 1), but Rodgers believes that many of these activities take place during the study simultaneously. The process of studying has got the nonlinear, rotation and flexibility nature. The sextet steps merely indicate activities that should be performed during the study and should not be considered them as successive stages [30].

After defining the desired concept, the most important step is determining the studied literature scope and range [29]. PubMed, CINAHL, MEDLINE, ProQuest, EBM REVIEW, Magiran, SID was used to search in this study. "Comprehensive nursing care" was used in a preliminary search. Then literature inclusion criteria were determined to study to obtain better results. The main criteria to enter the final analysis were literature that published in English and Persian in the range of 1970 to 2016 in the context of nursing and health sciences. Exclusion criteria include reports and articles that were not English and Persian.

There are two important breakthroughs in the identification of nursing care and identifies features of comprehensive nursing care: First, the person must be considered as a whole and this whole includes body, mind and spirituality and second, there is a balance and harmony between components [6], [12], [31], [32], [33], [34], [35], [36], [37], [38], [39], [40], [41], [42]. In general, features of comprehensive nursing care include the following:

1. The whole includes: body, mind, spirituality
2. Balance and harmony

Part 1: nursing care features:

The whole includes the body-mind-spirituality:

The whole includes several sections body-mind-spirituality that are related with each other and whole totally placed in an environment that is associated with the its environment [31] and disorder in one dimension can interfere in other dimensions and cause health problems [43]. Also it should be mentioned each person has got a unique character and the relationship between these sectors will cause creation well-being feeling in person [6]. Body, mind and spirituality will be explained in the form of physical, psychological and spiritual:

Physical dimension: It is one dimension that is considered in comprehensive nursing care. The dimension that contains various cells and tissues and organs. It is including care that meets their physical needs [44].

Psychological dimension: It focuses on the psychological dimension and its protests pathological is fear, anxiety, stress, etc. The dimension that human can thinking with it otherwise is cause psychological disorders [45].

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Spiritual dimension: It refers to personal beliefs and experiences of individual supernatural. Sometimes is used instead of culture and religion, which of course is not true. Religion is organized system of beliefs and culture and customs and beliefs is related to a group of people. In fact, spirituality is the result of personal beliefs and religion is the result a group beliefs and spirituality may be more visible in some religions and cultures [12], [46].

Part II: features of comprehensive nursing care

Harmony and balance between components

Human is similar to system that consists related and connected sections that are related with each other and finally do a special performance and whole performance depends on the performance of the components. The purpose of the whole person is the same system that depends on the biological sciences. In this system, each of the components have a special duty that finally causes to be a special performance and the performance of each components is required in order to reach ultimate performance. In fact kolcaba knows whole person as system that its function is the sum of each members (body-mind-spirituality), this similarity suggests that while the person as a whole is dependent on its components, is more than the sum of its components. However, this whole is associated with environment and has got the proper functioning as a system in a organism's perfect environment and location that is the result of unity between its components [47]. According to Watson, the person is combination of several factors that has got three parts (body-mind-spirituality) and these three part are related with each other by their meaning [48] and there is general agreement that spirituality and mind are indispensable part of human life [43], [31], [50], [49]. Although there is not tool for measuring of this component of the human whole, but studies show that the benefits of pay attention to this dimension, will be a sense of relief, convenience, gratitude [51].

Based on the above mentioned it can be concluded that feature of comprehensive nursing care looks at the person as a whole and has got physical, mental and spiritual components and spirit hasn't got material aspect and is considered as a vital component of human and there is a harmony and balance between the components of whole that is necessary for the well-being sense and health.

Surrogate and relevant terms

Meaning of surrogate terms is expressing the concept with words and statements apart from the selected concept to study [29]. In other words, the surrogate terms are explained meanings of expression of a concept that are used instead of selected words [30]. Relevant terms are concepts that express relation of desired concepts but hasn't got necessarily the similar features [29]. Identification of relevant words helps to settle of concept of comprehensive nursing care in basic knowledge of nursing. During the process of analysis, it was found that the concept of comprehensive nursing care is interchangeable with the term of the person as a whole, holism, mental-psychological-social biological, physical emotional, spiritual, cultural care with beliefs and values, comprehensive care, holistic care, unity between components, self-care self-responsibility, self-curing, complementary medicine, inseparable and unity [4], [6], [31], [32], [34], [35], [36], [39], [40], [42], [47], [49], [51], [52], [53], [54], [2], [56], [57], [58], [59], [60].

One of the surrogate terms for comprehensive nursing care is complementary medicine of CAM. Considering that definition is not provided for this term in this article, briefly its definition will be discussed. Complementary medicine is as surrogate terms for comprehensive nursing care, it means interventions and medical treatments completely [39] that involves the use of relaxation techniques, herbal therapy, acupuncture, hypnosis, yoga, biofeedback and guided imagery. This strategy considers mind and body together and this causes to its consistent with the comprehensive nursing care [37]. Related terms include: Eastern medical perspective, alternate therapy, holistic, subsidiary and whole medicine and human care [4], [32], [37], [38], [39], [41], [53], [56].

Antecedents

Next spin processes in cycle analysis of the concept of evolution is determining the antecedents and consequences of concept [61]. Identification of antecedents and consequences is an important part of the analysis concept because it provides greater clarity about the interested concept. Antecedents are events that happened before the concept. The antecedents of the concept of comprehensive nursing care are as follows that are discussed about each one briefly.

Spirituality, religion, supernatural being, belief in god, centrality of God, hope fostering, essences of life, need, relationship, imbalance or disharmony, advocacy, accountability, environment management for caring [6], [12], [62], [63], [64], [65].

Spirituality is prevail antecedents in comprehensive nursing care that other antecedents come in its wake.

Spirituality

It is trying to reach a supernatural relationship with God or supernatural sense and go beyond the object that makes a person to search for the meaning of life, peace, harmony and the holism. Discourse about spirituality in comprehensive nursing care is defined as a strategy of sense of hope creation that gives to the patients feel of relief, hope and spiritual well-being. Focus on spirituality makes a person unique, is essential part of human life and it can be considered central core of human [45]. Spiritual is quality that comes from supernatural of religious affiliation in person and is an attempt to being Rohani, alertness, sense of respect and understanding of concepts and also there is spirituality in those who do not believe in God. Spirituality in person is trying to establish a balance with the world and tries to answer the infinite questions and when illness, emotional disorders or death will occur role of spirituality will be more prominent [58].

Being supernatural and supernatural feeling

It is dynamic and unique effort to get to feel superior and creation of relationships with object superiors that makes sense of self-awareness and consciousness [66].

Necessity of Life

It is feeling of existence of necessity of communication with life and other people. Spirituality can be considered as an essential part of life [43].

Religion

It is definable borders about ideas that people in a community or group of people believe to it.

Hope

Expectation, waiting and hoping for healing that eventually will cause to feel of calm [67].

Believe in God

It is belief in a superior force that guides all factors and there is like an infinite power that enhances a person's spirituality [68].

Relation

It is the feeling of being connected to the Supernatural power for being spiritual and having sens of well-being spiritual [68].

The centrality of God

It is confession and faith to existence of God that is focus and purpose of life [68].

Need

It is vacuum feel that occurs in dimensions of individual at the time of illness and imbalance [68].

Being defenders
Accountability and environment management for caring

These two features are the antecedents of nurse, the purpose of accountability is responsibility towards physical, mental and psychological needs and the purpose of the environmental management for care is minimizing external factors that are hindering the care [12]. It should be noted that in patients who are not sober or have psychological illness, being defenders and responsive skills is effective for the patient more than other patient [12].

Imbalance or disharmony

It will be created in one of the human dimensions due to not meeting of needs [46], [51], [66], [67], [69], [70], [71].

Consequences

Consequences are events related to the concept result and the consequences occur as a concept result [29] and are divided into positive and negative consequences [30].

Positive consequences include

Creation of patient-centered care, creation of cultural care, interpersonal relationships, sense of spiritual well-being, harmony and healing, sense of job satisfaction of nurse and satisfaction in patient. Patient-centered care

It is very close to the concept of the person as a whole that has three dimensions: physical, mental and spirituality. Patient-centered care has implications for this that the person to be considered as a whole and focus is on the spiritual dimension of patient while emphasis that the feeling of well-being, tranquility, peace, comfort and being supported is created in person [6], [31], [43], [50], [51]. Since human existence is rooted in the spiritual level [31], so spiritual care for the person as a whole can be in the form of friendly conversations and therapeutic interventions with compassion, love and understanding of sick feeling [51].

Cultural Care includes

It is mutual understanding and appreciation of nurse about family custom, values, beliefs and how culture affects health. In fact, comprehensive nursing care cause that nurse pay attention to the patient's culture, along with all other aspects. In situations where nurses encounter with different religions and cultures, nursing authors emphasize on conversations and making connection in comprehensive nursing care. Beliefs and behaviors that are rooted in some cultures, could be concluded in health care [72]. Therefore, understanding cultural customs, values and beliefs of the patient's family is an important factor in comprehensive nursing care [31], [32], [43], [51], [71].

Interpersonal relationships

It can be like verbal and nonverbal communication skills, behavior and sincere and warm attitude, respectful and behavior away from any judgment [51].

Spiritual well-being, harmony and healing

It refers to adaptive power of person with his/her illness, either chronic or acute or process of dying and death and that his/her family will contribute to this adaptation [45]. Spirituality and religion may have overlap in some places, for example, some activities and things that are rooted in a particular culture, have spirituality applicable and rooted in religion that this causes to creation better sense for the person as a whole [71]. In fact, beliefs about health may be formed by religion or spiritual and, these two components are inseparable in some religions such as Islam [73]. A lot of nursing theorists, including Newman, Watson, Roy and Rogers believe that sense of spiritual well-being and healing result of person spiritual [74]. The consequences of spirituality, such as the ability to make a decision, care with loving and therapeutic use of self, cause to creation of sense of spiritual well-being [6], [31], [43], [50], [51].

Sense of job satisfaction of nurse

The mentioned consequences allow to nurse to look at the patient beyond the mechanical object and have supernatural consciousness feeling and witnesses and look at the patient as a whole that also will cause sense of nurse job satisfaction [6].

Patient satisfaction

On the other hand, good feeling improves relations between nurse and patient and spiritual expression, such as caring with love, compassion, sympathy and creating hope in patients that can be used in all aspects of nursing care, causes sense of satisfaction at the patient.

The negative consequences

The negative consequences of comprehensive nursing care include excessive attention to the spiritual aspect, draining energy and emotion of nurse and spent excessive time and nursing care associated with time management, nursing education in self-management, compliance to prevent discharge of emotion and energy and observing the balance in meeting the needs of patients in all dimensions [12].

Fig. 1: Conceptual model of comprehensive nursing care.

Example expression according to the concept

One of the activities of sextet Rogers approach is presentation of appropriate sample or example in case of requirement. Rogers states that presentation of one example for practical clarify about the concept that related to context, is essential [29]. Example expression can be done through qualitative studies or special occasions [75].

Ms. Roya Mohammadi with a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS) was hospitalized in Neurology women sector in Imam Khomeini Hospital. She was hospitalized once or twice a year due to recurrence and was discharged after symptoms subside, she lived only and her sickness was diagnosed for 8 years. Ms. Majd was her nurse in evening shift. Ms. Majd was sitting on the bedside chair of patient and while she spoke with the patient helped her to comb her hair (Harmony). While Ms. Majd take the patient's hands, listened to talk of the patient about her illness experiences, why her husband left her and her interest to her child. (Physical)

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The conversation between nurse and patient was finished and then Ms. Mohammad suffered from shortness of breath due to respiratory muscle weakness following the disease (Physical), the nurse immediately gave her oxygen through a mask that and placed her in a semi-upright position and while nurse put her(nurse) hand on the shoulders of the patient, assured her (Harmony). Ms. Majd was the patient's family an important factor in comprehensive nursing care [31], [32], [43], [51]. Since human existence is rooted in the spiritual level [31], so spiritual care for the person as a whole can be in the form of friendly conversations and therapeutic interventions with compassion, love and understanding of sick feeling [51].

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It means that sense of patient and family need to have support in the event of illness that will be reversed this need with comprehensive care of nursing [27].
psychiatric sectors on the phone, patient did not accept because of having better feeling (Spirituality and healing) and stated that the presence of nurse and talking with her gave her sense of calm and feel better (Comprehensive, physical-mental-spiritual dimension, harmony - healing). Patient contacted with neurology department after discharge and spoke with her nurse; she praised the efforts of caretakers and said to her: she felt calm after discharge and prayer caused that she could to comply with disease and did activities of daily life with more hope.

**Interpretation and implications of the concept analysis**

They refer to the clinical implications and research and education to clarify the research finding.

**Clinical implications**

The present knowledge about the features and antecedents and consequences and concepts related to the Comprehensive Nursing Care causes clarifying the policy of nurses, especially nurses who care chronic patients. The clinical importance of comprehensive nursing care is creation of nursing care for special society and culture, this means that comprehensive nursing care is in accordance with the culture of desired community, so can be adapted with that particular culture. When the patient with special cultural, social, economic background and its own values and beliefs separate from his/her family to stay at hospital due to physical illness, may experience anxiety, fear and stress and in fact imbalance is created in the his/her dimensions that will cause imbalance in whole. Therefore, a knowledgeable and skilled nurse should look at patient or person as a whole and does nursing care with love and interest without prejudice and meets all of his/her needs in all aspects. Knowledge of nurses about comprehensive nursing care will cause their empowerment in provide of effective and better care. Studies have shown that the nurses who work in health environment and their dominant paradigm is deductive and positivism, find ways to use non-traditional methods of care that is consistent with their beliefs about holistic care [76] and it requires individual empowerment and intentionality of nurses are trying to gain the trust of clients [77]. In fact, the difference of medical and nursing care is that medical focuses on biological and physical systems of person and nurse focuses on 24-hour care of the patient and his/her family and support him as whole and strives to meet the needs of different dimensions and creates spiritual well-being, coping and healing in the patient that leads to satisfaction and the adequacy of the nurse.

**Theoretical implications**

The present analysis was performed with Rodgers evolutionary approach that leads to the development of the concept. Therefore, this analysis was conducted based on the time and particular issue. According to the review of the literature the concept of comprehensive nursing care associated with nursing knowledge and it has been discussed frequently in nursing literature and has been provided different definitions of it. According to Rogers evolutionary approach, the existence of various definitions does not end to the end result about what is concept but it is the basis for a further search and development of concept. According to the analysis finding, comprehensive nursing care is defined as follows: it is care that look at the person with physical, mental and spiritual dimension as a whole and emphasizes that all dimensions must be considered in meeting of needs. Comprehensive nursing care knows person as unique and believes that there is unity between all dimensions of a person that an imbalance in one dimension will cause imbalance in whole. Providing the above definition for further clarification of the concept of comprehensive nursing care not only doesn’t close way of further exploring the concept, but also provides the opportunity for further research to develop the concept and its application in the fields of theorizing and research in the fields of ducational, managerial and clinical nursing. So it seems that the training of this concept should be placed in theory programs and evidence-based findings in this area should be included as part of the educational curriculum that this may be, a prelude to a variety of learning strategies with an emphasis on values and thinking and communication skills transparency such as active listening and hearing. Adoption of this attitude in nursing education will cause care Facility and communication without prejudice at the bedside. Training of nature of being multi-dimensional of comprehensive nursing care and attention to all human dimensions, cause that students are faced with a variety of ideas and cause to have a different look to improve and healing and pay attention to multiple dimensions of the individual and to consider the person as a whole cause students provide care plan of complete treatment for the patient [78]. Training of communication skills and the inclusion of definitions and events and features a comprehensive nursing care and the importance of spirituality causes to improve nurses’ work and causes that while nurses accept each person is unique, look at person as a whole that will be the ultimate goal of comprehensive nursing care. Finally, its placement in training programs will cause to creation of business directory for clinical nursing and changing attitude of nursing student during entering the clinical arena.

**Research implications**

Terms and concepts to define and credibility and confidence always need to research and comprehensive nursing care is also not an exception. Since the findings of the study could form the body of knowledge of that field. Research is needed to evaluate the transparency of effectiveness of the concept. Therefore, it is necessary that all components of comprehensive nursing care are tested and then be applied in clinical practice. Case studies with an emphasis on comprehensive nursing care can facilitate codification of patient care programs.

The study result showed that despite the necessity of comprehensive nursing care and theoretical training in the field, comprehensive nursing care isn't done in many sectors and nurses who care chronic patients, focused on comprehensive nursing care more than other sectors. The study result showed that while this care will be done, consequences such as a sense of peace, hope, spiritual well-being and healing will be felt and nurses will be felt adequacy and satisfaction. On the other hand, the study results showed that religious and cultures create spiritual backgrounds and sense of being supernatural that by looking at these dimensions of person, it is effective on comprehensive nursing care.

Given that only a limited number of articles has pointed to the negative consequences of Comprehensive Nursing Care it seems that doing research that sho these effects, is necessary.

**CONCLUSION**

The concept of comprehensive nursing care is changeable form over time and in different issues, so there are different definitions of comprehensive nursing care in nursing science and health care. Therefore, concept analysis is needed in order to reach a common understanding of nurses and having a clinical guideline and codification of patient care programs. The concept of comprehensive nursing care isn't done in many sectors and nurses who care chronic patients, focused on comprehensive nursing care more than other sectors. The study result showed that while this care will be done, consequences such as a sense of peace, hope, spiritual well-being and healing will be felt and nurses will be felt adequacy and satisfaction. On the other hand, the study results showed that religious and cultures create spiritual backgrounds and sense of being supernatural that by looking at these dimensions of person, it is effective on comprehensive nursing care.

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