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Models for Long-Term Care Policy: What the U.S. Can Learn from Other Countries

The need to provide Long-Term Care (LTC) for growing elderly populations is a public policy issue in all industrialized countries. Unlike other OECD countries, the U.S. lacks a foundation for universal LTC benefits. Much can be learned by examining other industrialized countries. LTC systems. In this paper, we will examine how other countries' provide LTC services for their glowing elderly populations, finance the costs of LTC services, determine eligibility for services, and encourage and support informal caregivers.

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Challenges of Novice Nurse Educators' Transition from Clinical Practice to Academia in Ghana: A Qualitative Study

Background: The recruitment of experienced clinical nurses into vacant faculty positions is a global strategy for preparing, employing, and retaining competent nurse educators. As clinical nurses transition to academia, many struggle with unique challenges that affect their adaptation to the academic setting. Thus, understanding novice nurse educators' transitional challenges is critical to addressing this threat.

Aim: This study aimed to explore the challenges of novice nurse educators' transition from clinical practice to academia in Ghana.

Methods: A descriptive qualitative study design was employed for this study. A purposive sampling technique was used to recruit 12 novice nurse educators from three health training institutions in the Upper East Region of Ghana. A semi-structured interview guide was used to collect data through in-depth individual interviews. The interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed verbatim, and thematically analyzed.

Results: Four themes emerged: poor administrative support, poor preparation, increased workload and stress, and role ambiguity. Novice nurse educators lacked formal orientation, formal mentorship, formal education in teaching, and post-graduate education. Novices were also challenged by increased workload and role ambiguity.

Conclusion: Supporting novice nurse educators' transition from clinical practice would be better served by college administrators' creation and implementation of formal orientation and mentorship programs.

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<u>Strategies to Prevent Lower-Extremity Positioning Injuries During Long-Duration Surgery in the Lithotomy Position:</u>
Our Techniques and Clinical Outcomes Following Genital Gender-Affirming Surgeries

Purpose: Lower-extremity (LE) injuries due to prolonged surgery duration in the dorsal lithotomy (DL) position are often morbid and can significantly affect the patient's short and long-term quality of life. These include the development of lower extremity pressure ulcers, neuropathies, rhabdomyolysis, and compartment syndromes. As compared to other surgeries, this risk is increased in patients undergoing genital gender-affirming surgery (gGAS) due to the relatively long operative time of these surgeries related to their high complexity. Our study aimed to describe our technique for preventing LE injuries in the DL position, and to evaluate our positioning-related post-operative complications and rates.

Materials and Methods: We describe our technique for positioning in the dorsal lithotomy position, with an emphasis on injury prevention. We ensure a specific padding technique of the LE, we alert surgical assistants to not lean/rest on the LE, and we schedule LE checks and repositioning throughout the case to prevent and mitigate occult injuries.

Herein, we report our clinical positioning-related outcomes and complications among all patients undergoing gGAS procedures lasting >300 minutes between January 2017 to March 2023.

Results: A total of 227 patients underwent 310 surgical procedures (156 masculinizing, 154 feminizing gGAS procedures). Mean operative time was 495.5 minutes+/-156.5 minutes (SD) (Range 300–1095 minutes). A total of 6/227 (2.6%) patients (2 masculinizing and 4 feminizing surgical patients) had transient, self-limited LE pain post-op. No (0%) patients had major complications including chronic nerve injury, pressure ulcers, rhabdomyolysis, or compartment syndrome.

Conclusions: Our study is the first to describe a replicable technique, and specifically which integrates the OR team and nursing staff, to prevent LE injuries during DL. We show that it is possible to achieve a 0%-to-rare incidence of major LE injury during long-duration surgeries.

Case Study Published Date: - 2023-09-12

Intersecting Pathways: Examining Hildegard Peplau's and Rosemarie Parse's Nursing Theories through a Comparative Lens

Background: Nursing theories are organized bodies of knowledge providing a way to define nursing as a unique discipline that is separate from other disciplines. As a profession, nursing is committed to recognizing its own unparalleled body of knowledge vital to nursing practice and science. Nursing is a science based on the theory of what nursing is, what nurses do, and why.

Aim: This paper aims to elucidate the practical application of Hildegard Peplau's and Rosemarie Parse's nursing theories, individually and in synthesis, in modern nursing practice.

Key points: These include a) Hildegard Peplau's Theory of Interpersonal Relations emphasizes the nurse-patient relationship, therapeutic communication, and the continuous search for improvement in patients, even those facing mental health challenges. b) Rosemarie Parse's Theory of Human Becoming underscores the uniqueness of each patient's lived experiences, the significance of "meaning" in health experiences, "rhythmicity" in patterns, and the potential for "transcendence" and growth. c) Integrating Peplau's and Parse's theories promotes holistic patient-centered care, compassionate and empathetic nursing, enhanced communication skills, patient autonomy, cultural competence, continuity of care, and a deep respect for human dignity. d) By embracing both theories, nurses can provide comprehensive, compassionate, and patient-centered care that respects each patient's individuality and capacity for growth.

Conclusion: The synthesis of Hildegard Peplau's and Rosemarie Parse's nursing theories offers nurses a comprehensive framework for modern nursing practice. It guides nurses in providing high-quality, patient-centered care that preserves human dignity and recognizes the uniqueness of each patient. Drawing from multiple theoretical perspectives enhances nursing practice and ensures the well-being of patients in today's evolving healthcare landscape.

Short Communication Published Date: - 2023-03-31

Management and use of vacuum systems in a surgery ward

Vacuum therapy has become a new option in the treatment of wounds in surgery. More recently this therapy has also been used as a treatment for anastomotic leakages in association or not to emergency surgery. The management of these devices should be familiar to all the staff in a surgical ward.

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The development of urotherapy in pediatric care and the training of urotherapists

The terms urotherapy and urotherapist are often mentioned in the literature, but their origins and meanings are less well-known.

Objective: To describe the background and development of the concept of urotherapy in pediatric care and the profession of urotherapist.

Methods: Data has been searched for in Medline PubMed and selection has been limited to papers important for the purpose.

Results: Understanding of urinary bladder function was developed in the 1970's, mainly due to new urodynamic methods opened up for possible treatment options. Standard urotherapy is a concept developed in the 1980's and aims to treat dysfunction by helping the patient to learn to understand bladder function and then practice certain techniques in order to normalize it. To succeed, guidance and support are needed from a skilled urotherapist. In Scandinavian and German-speaking countries, quality-assured training for urotherapists at the university level is available.

Conclusion: Urotherapy standard therapy is a non-invasive treatment recommended as the first-choice treatment for lower urinary tract disorders. However, we must have requirements as to what knowledge a urotherapist needs to have, and training has to be certified and be at the university level.