



The Nursing Process







Nursing Diagnosis

- A clinical judgment about individual, family, or community responses to actual or potential health/life processes.
 - Nursing diagnoses provide the basis for selection of nursing interventions to achieve outcomes for which the nurse is accountable
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Nursing diagnosis

- It is a statement of health problems that nurses can legally identify and for which they can prescribe the primary interventions for treatment and prevention
 - Provide a basis for selection of nursing interventions so that goals and outcomes can be achieved
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Nursing diagnosis

- i. The collected data is sorted out, clustered and analyzed in order to identify the patient's actual and potential health problems and strengths

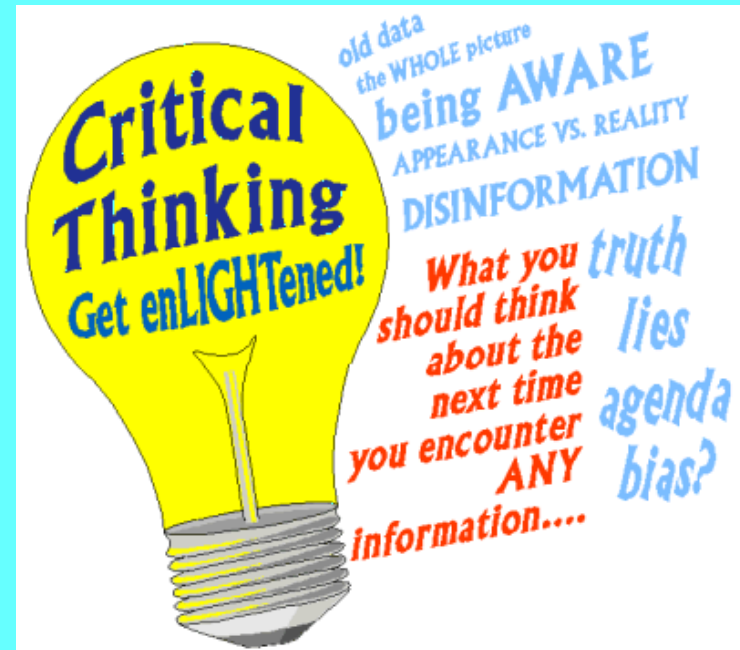


Nursing diagnosis

- ii. A precise statement of the problem and the contributing factors to the problem is written
- iii. The problems are prioritized

Diagnostic Reasoning

- Apply critical thinking to problem identification
- Requires knowledge, skill, and experience
- Big Picture



Writing a nursing diagnosis

- Use accepted qualifying terms (Altered, Decreased, Increased, Impaired)
- Don't use Medical Diagnosis (Altered Nutritional Status related to Cancer)
- Don't state 2 separate problems in one diagnosis

How do you make a NDX

- Analyze collected data, look for cues
- Identify patterns
 - Cluster cues (signs and symptoms)
 - Synthesizing the cue clusters
- Identify the client's strengths
- Identify the client's normal functional level and indicators of actual or potential dysfunction

How do you make a NDX

- Three questions to ask self
 - What are my concerns about this client
 - Can I or am I doing something about it
 - Can the overall risk be decreased by nursing interventions
- Formulate a diagnostic statement in relations to this synthesis



Components of NDX

- Diagnostic Label—a concise phrase or term describing the client’s health.
 - Include qualifying terms –actual, risk, impaired, ineffective etc
- Definition—expresses clearly and precisely the essential nature of the diagnostic label
 - Differentiates the label from others



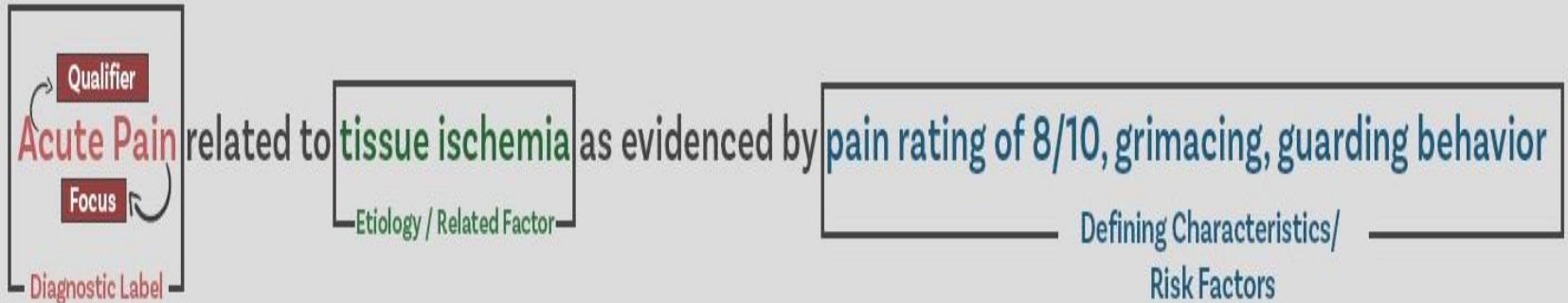
Components of NDX

- Defining characteristics- are cues that indicate the presence of the diagnostic label- signs and symptoms/ risk factors
- Related factors- contributing factors

Components of NDX



Example



Parts of a diagnostic statement

- May be one, two or three part
- Problem-Name of the nursing diagnosis as listed in the taxonomy- Describes the problem using as few words as possible
- Etiology- describes factors causing or contributing to actual
- Related to factor-Connects the two parts of the statement

Types of Nursing Diagnosis

- Actual

- Represents a problem that has been validated by the presence of a major defining characteristic
- It has four components-label, definition, defining characteristics and related factors
- E.g-impaired skin integrity r/t immobility secondary to pain as evidenced by 2cm erythematous sacral lesion

Types of Nursing Diagnosis

- Risk and high risk
 - A clinical judgment that the client is more vulnerable to develop this problem than others in the same or similar situation
 - Mainly two part
- E.g-Risk for Infection as evidenced by compromised host defenses

Types of Nursing Diagnosis

- Possible nursing diagnosis
 - These are statements that describe a suspected problem requiring additional data.
 - Two part statement- possible nursing diagnosis, related to
 - E.g- possible disturbed self concept related to recent loss of role responsibilities

Types of Nursing Diagnosis

- **Wellness** – a clinical judgment about an individual, group, community in transition from a specific level of wellness to a higher level of wellness
- For an individual to have a wellness nursing diagnosis, two cues must be present
 - Desire for increased wellness
 - Effective present status or function



Wellness NDX

- Usually one-part statements
 - Related factors are always the same:
 - Motivated to achieve a higher level of wellness



Examples of wellness NDX

- Readiness for enhanced family processes
- Readiness for enhanced hope
- Sedentary lifestyle

Types of Nursing Diagnosis

- Syndrome NDX- Comprise a cluster of predicted actual or high risk nursing diagnosis r/t a certain event or situation
- Mostly they are one part diagnostic statements



Examples of syndrome NDX


- Chronic Pain Syndrome
- Post-trauma Syndrome

Problems to avoid

- DO NOT use the medical diagnosis
- Must be a problem the nurse and/or client can change or do something about
- Relating the problem to an unchangeable situation
- Focus on the human responses to the problem



Problems to avoid

- Be specific
 - Don't combine NDX
 - Don't relate one NDX to another.
 - Don't make assumptions or statements you can't prove with assessment data
 - Be sure your statement is legally advisable
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NDX VS Medical Diagnosis

Nursing Diagnosis

- Describes clients response
- Responses vary between individuals
- Changes as client responses change
- Nurse orders interventions

Medical Diagnosis

- Refers to the disease process
- Somewhat uniform between clients
- Remains same during disease process
- Physician orders interventions

Scenario

- Mr. K 36 years old is admitted in the surgical ward following RTA. On assessment
 - SPO₂: 76%
 - Degloving wound -left femoral area
 - Bleeding profusely
 - Difficulty in breathing
 - Fracture -left femur-upper third