A Concept Analysis of Noise

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INTRODUCTION

- Noise has been documented to have negative impacts on both staff and patients, resulting in poor patient outcomes and slow recovery in the intensive care unit (ICU).
- Understanding how noise is perceived is essential in improving patient outcomes in the ICU. However, few studies have been conducted on the meaning and perception of noise (White & Zomorodi, 2017).

METHOD

A concept analysis of noise was guided by Walker and Avant’s (2011) framework for concept analysis to facilitate clarity and meaning for the concept of noise.

ANTECEDENTS

- Sound
- Sense of hearing
- Exposure to sound
- Provoking stimulus

ATTRIBUTES

Noise is:
- An invisible phenomenon that either impairs or repairs
- An adaptive perception
- A healing environment

CONSEQUENCE

- Positive change

EMPIRICAL REFERENTS

- Levels and duration of noise
- Instrumentation
- Perception

REFERENCES


CONCLUSIONS

“Unnecessary noise, then, is the most cruel absence of care which can be inflicted either on sick or well” (Nightingale, 1860)

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