



# Ambulatory Care Nursing Conceptual Framework in Action

**BLUEPRINT FOR DESCRIBING AND ADVANCING  
AMBULATORY CARE NURSING PRACTICE, EDUCATION, AND  
RESEARCH**

**STTI 45<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention**

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# Disclosures

## ▶ **Authors and Affiliations**

- ▶ Margaret F Mastal, PhD, MSN, RN Retired from Active Nursing, Past President of AAACN
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## ▶ **Learner Objectives**

- ▶ Identify the definition and practice settings for ambulatory care nursing
  - ▶ Discuss the evolution of the ambulatory care nursing conceptual framework
  - ▶ Describe practical applications of the ambulatory care nursing conceptual framework
- ▶ **The presenters have identified no conflict interest. Commercial support or sponsorship was not provided for this presentation.**

# Definition of Ambulatory Care Nursing

Professional ambulatory care nursing:

- Complex, multi-faceted specialty
- Encompasses independent and collaborative practice
- Partners with health professionals across the span of the health continuum

Focuses on health care for individuals, families, groups, communities and populations

Practice is built on a broad base of evidence in nursing and health sciences, applying nursing knowledge and expertise through the nursing process to ensure:

- Patient safety
- Quality processes
- Improved patient and organizational outcomes

# Settings for Professional Practice

- ▶ Hospital-based outpatient clinics and centers
- ▶ Solo/group medical practices
- ▶ Ambulatory surgery and medical diagnostic procedure centers
- ▶ Telehealth encounters in the virtual environment
- ▶ University and community settings
- ▶ Nurse-managed clinics
- ▶ Military and VA clinics
- ▶ HMOs and ACOs
- ▶ Patient homes and residences
- ▶ Care Coordination settings

# Importance of a Conceptual Framework for Ambulatory Care Nursing

- ▶ Presents a “global view” and visual depiction of ambulatory care nursing
- ▶ Illustrates main concepts and their interrelationships
- ▶ Serves as the organizing framework for practice
- ▶ Provides direction for research of phenomena of interest
- ▶ Guides curriculum development
- ▶ Changes as ambulatory care nursing advances

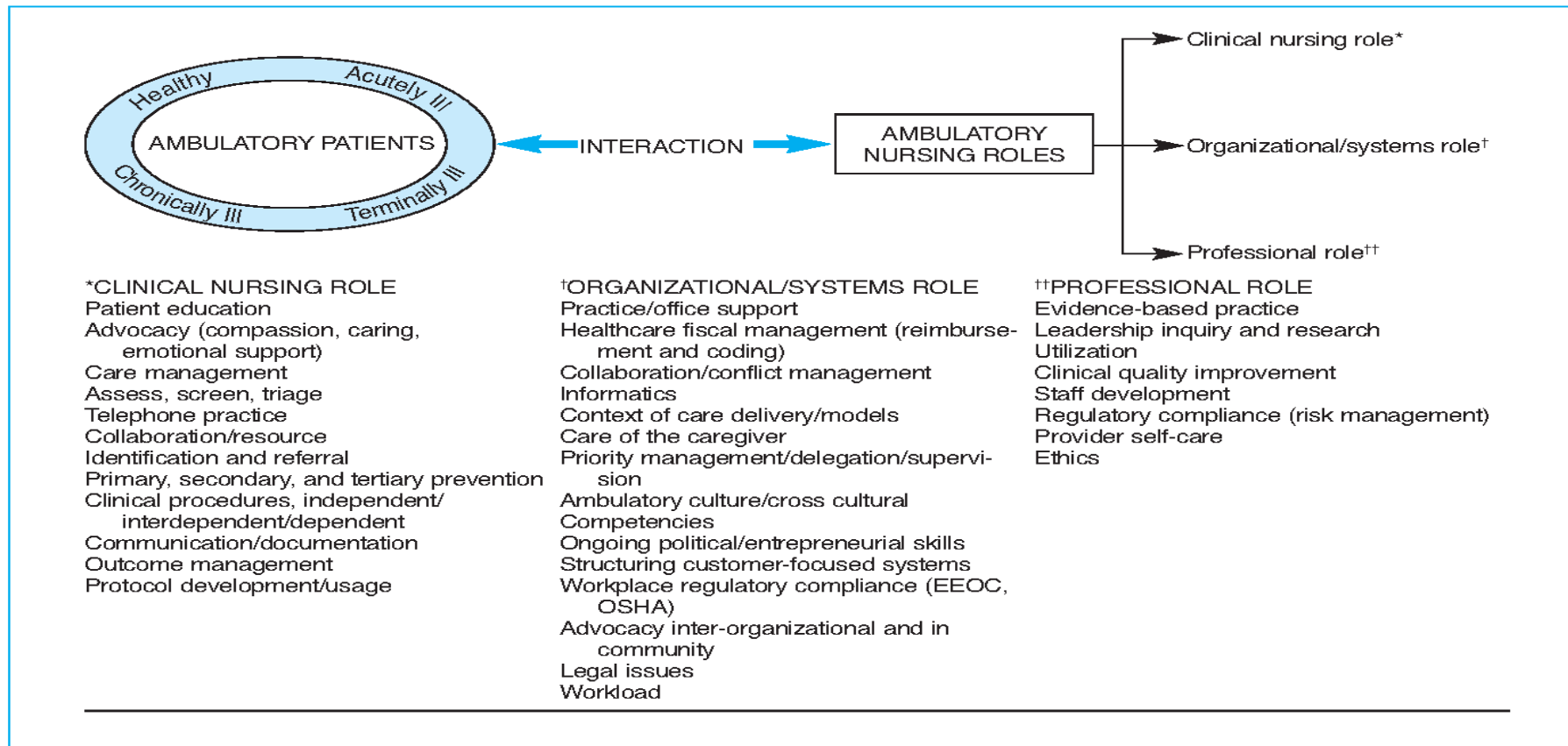
# Value of the Conceptual Framework for Ambulatory Care Nursing

A conceptual framework provides a blueprint for ambulatory care nursing,

- Strategic and operational planning
- ▶ Design of ambulatory care practice models
- ▶ Development of testing materials that identify nurse competencies for ambulatory care certification
- ▶ Development of educational curricula and materials
- ▶ Development of orientation programs
- ▶ Research study design (Mastal, 2013, pp.7-8)

# Conceptual Framework: Version I

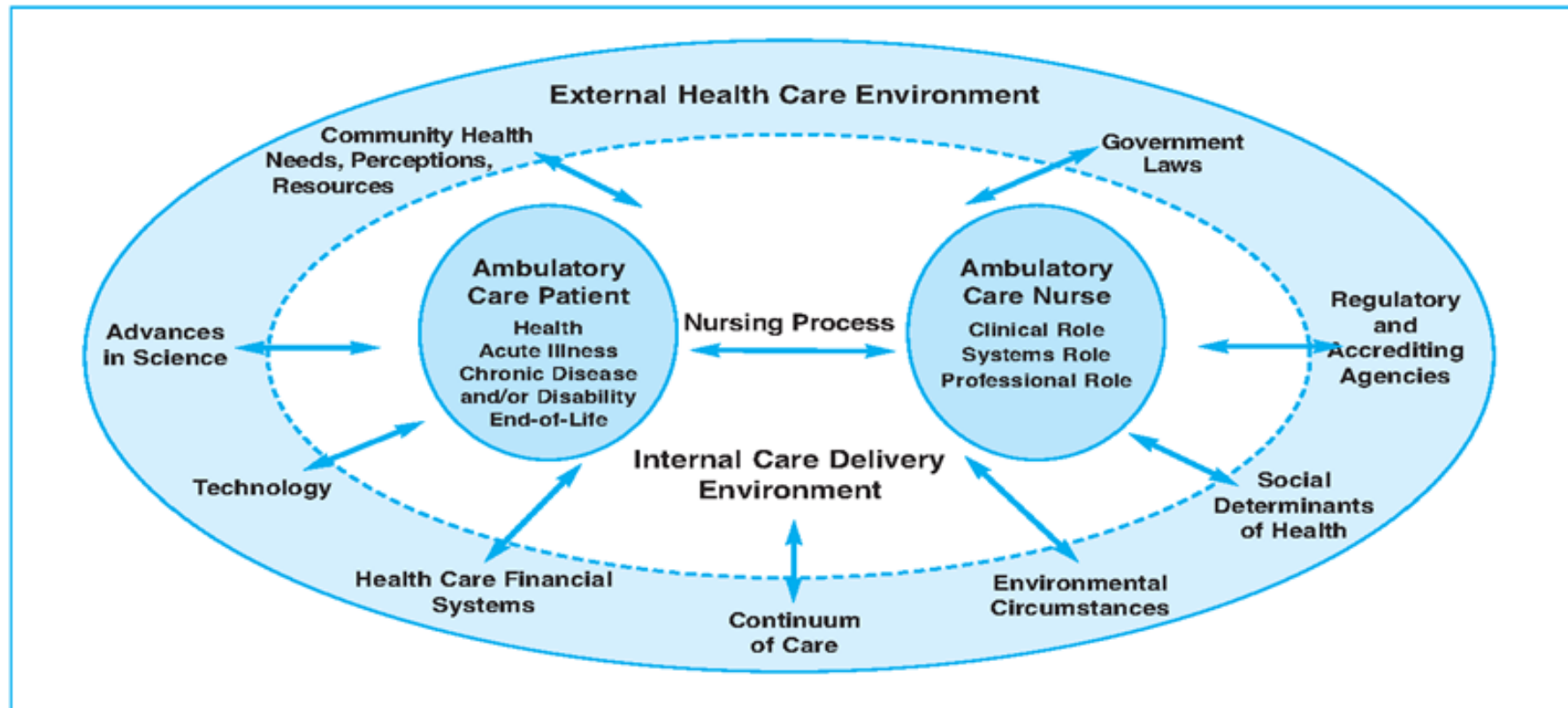
**Figure 1.**  
**Ambulatory Care Nursing Conceptual Framework**



Source: Adapted from Haas, 1998.

# Conceptual Framework: Current Model

Ambulatory Care Nursing Conceptual Framework Diagram



Source: Copyright © 2018. American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing

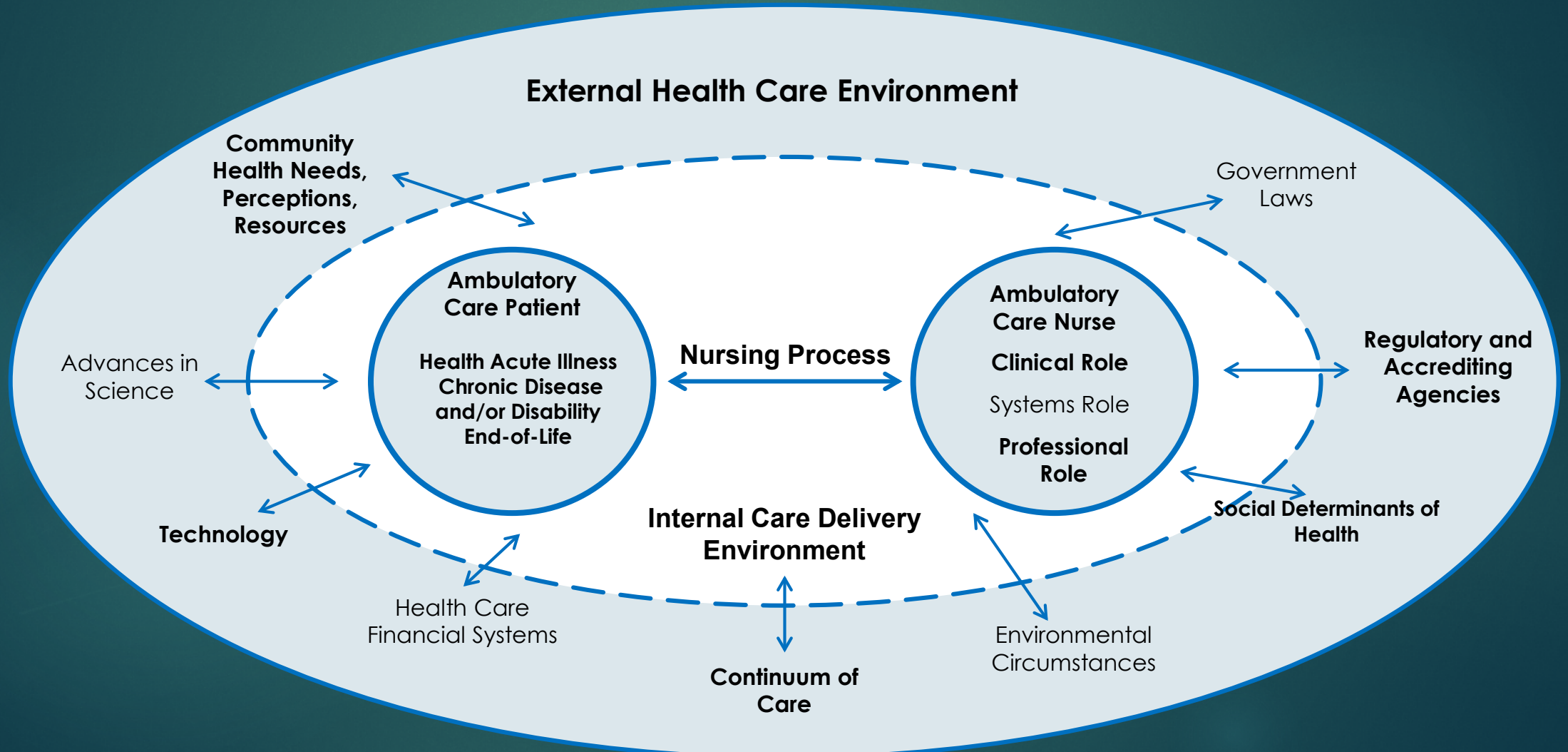


# Practical Examples Illustrate Framework Application

- ▶ **Dedicated Educational Unit in Primary Care**
- ▶ **RN Transitional Care Coordination Model**

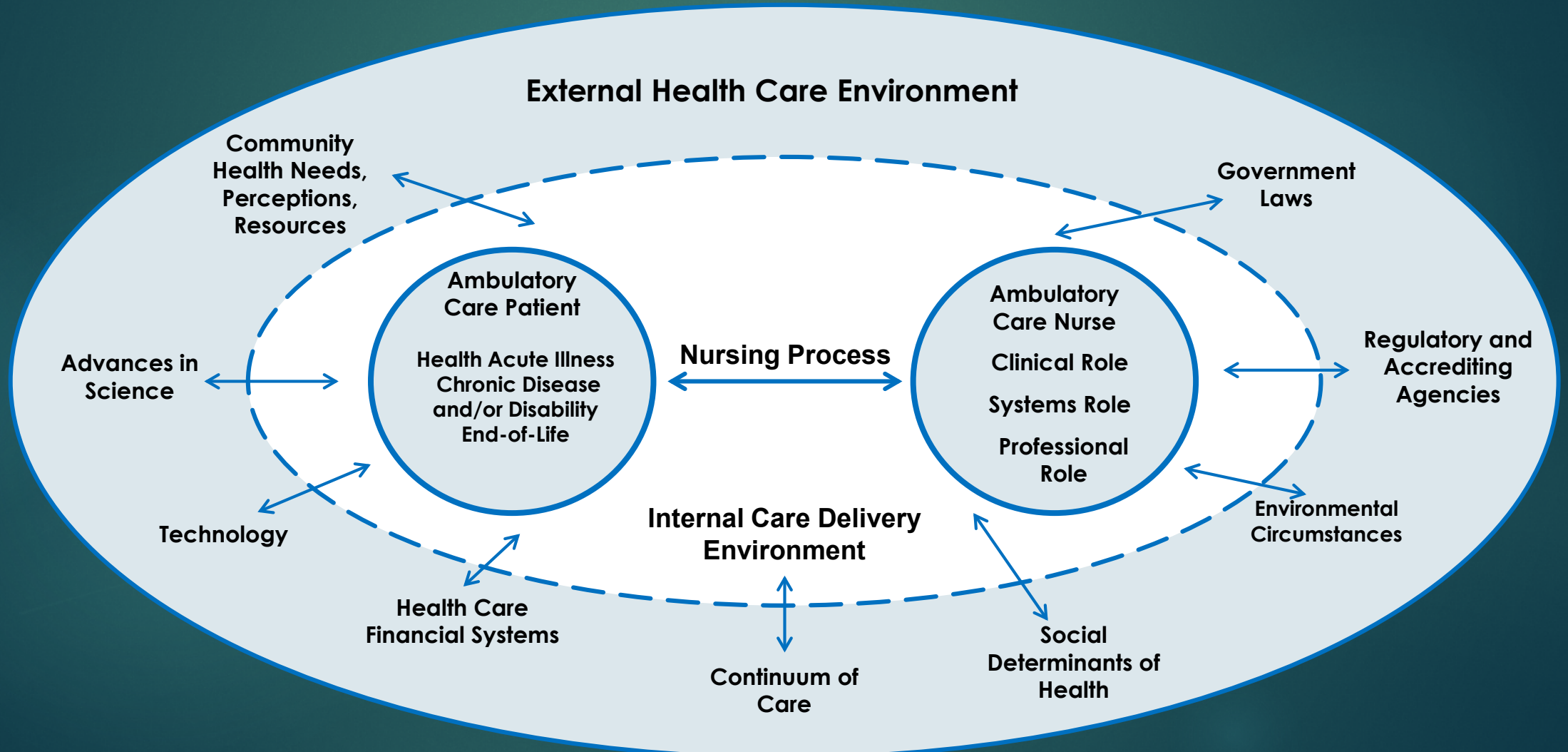
# Dedicated Education Unit in Primary Care Using the Model

Ambulatory Care Nursing Conceptual Framework Diagram



# Application in Transitional Care RN Care Coordination Model

Ambulatory Care Nursing Conceptual Framework Diagram





# Questions and Discussion

# References and Reading List

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