The Process of Fostering a "Philosophy of Nursing" in Japanese Nursing Students

Hiromi Haginoya, MSN
Kikue Hidaka, PhD
Chizuru Mori, PhD, RN
Faculty of Medicine, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba City, Ibaraki, Japan

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to clarify how a philosophy of nursing is fostered in Japanese nursing students. Although the term "philosophy of nursing" is often used in Japan, it does not have a clear definition. Thus, we conducted a concept analysis of "philosophy of nursing" prior to carrying out the present study. The concept analysis was performed on Japanese documents using Rodgers' approach. As a result of the analysis, we defined "philosophy of nursing" as the values, which are the action guidelines for nursing professionals, obtained by nurses from self-insight into nursing through interacting with patients and thinking about their own nursing practice. Additionally, we believe that through enhancing philosophy of nursing, professional identity as a nurse is established and the quality of nursing is improved.

Methods: Therefore, in order to clarify the process of fostering a "philosophy of nursing", semi-structured interviews were conducted with 15 nursing students who consented to take part in this study. The data were analyzed using the modified grounded theory approach.

Results: Nursing students entered college with "aspirations and expectations for the nursing job", and experienced caring patients in clinical practice while feeling "bewildered by the learning experience" in the process of studying academic disciplines unknown to them. In clinical practice, the students thought about reaching out and connecting with patients, emphasizing individuality, bringing out abilities in patients, and supporting families. Furthermore, the students underwent the process of repeating "finding learning tasks" by "thinking about nursing" and "reflecting on their own words and actions" and in turn "realizing valuable aspects of nursing".

Conclusion: As with the results of the concept analysis of "philosophy of nursing", the students reflected not only on nursing but also on themselves by interactions with patients in clinical practice. The process of fostering nursing students' philosophy of nursing was accompanied by their own inner growth.

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modified grounded theory approach, nursing students of Japan and philosophy of nursing
Abstract Summary:
The purpose of this study is to clarify how a philosophy of nursing is fostered in Japanese nursing students. Although the term "philosophy of nursing" is often used in Japan, it does not have a clear definition. Therefore, in order to clarify the process of fostering a "philosophy of nursing".

References:

First Primary Presenting Author
Primary Presenting Author
Hiromi Haginoya, MSN
University of Tsukuba
Faculty of Medicine
Associate Professor
Tsukuba City, Ibaraki
Japan

Author Summary: I conduct the study on nursing skill. We make use of result in nursing education. In addition, we are interested in overall nursing education. In the past, we conducted the study for the stress reduction of the patients.

Second Secondary Presenting Author
Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author
Kikue Hidaka, PhD
University of Tsukuba
Faculty of Medicine
Professor
Tsukuba City, Ibaraki
Japan

Author Summary: I study the rehabilitation nursing. My specialty is nursing of patients with disturbance of consciousness and the rehabilitation of swallowing. I am interested in nursing study of the world in my special study.
Third Secondary Presenting Author

**Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author**
Chizuru Mori, PhD, RN
University of Tsukuba
Faculty of Medicine
Professor
Tsukuba City, Ibaraki
Japan

**Author Summary:** Study on psychiatric rehabilitation nursing. Product program to improve meta-cognitive function by intervene the reality monitoring in people with schizophrenia. Study on forensic mental health nursing. Study on nursing for the patient with substance related disorders. Study on nursing care for drug and addiction. Study on association between drinking action of patients and consciousness of children.