LABOR PAIN AS A NEW NURSING DIAGNOSIS: CONCEPTUAL AND CONTENT VALIDATION

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INTRODUCTION

- The phenomenon of pain during labor differs from the experiences of acute and chronic pain in physiology and interpretation of the mother.
- The response to the experience of pain is complex and subjective.
- The interpretation of labor pain is built based on: personality, ethnicity, and social and cultural experience before pain and labor.

INTRODUCTION

Question

 Is pain in labor situations inserted into the nursing diagnosis NANDA-I (00132) Acute Pain?

Hypothesis

 Labor pain has clinical evidence that differs from the Acute Pain nursing diagnosis.

Objectives

 To build the concept of labor pain and to develop the content validation.

METHODS

 Phase A - Analysis of concepts as proposed by Walker and Avant (2005)

 Phase B - The content validation followed the Fehring's recommendations (1986)

Phase A - Analysis of concepts

Walker & Avant Model (Eight steps)

- 1. Concept selection: pain in labor situation.
- 2. Proposed analysis: to build the concept of pain in labor situations.
- 3. Identify the uses of the concept:
- A- Concept selected among the 180 terms related to pain (DeCs and MeSH): Labor Pain (Pain of Labor, Labor Pains and Childbirth Pains).
- B- Search in the literature

Phase A - Analysis of concepts

B - Integrative review of the literature (Whittemore, 2005).

- MEDLINE, LILACS, CINAHL databases.
- 448 citations with abstracts in the period from Jan/1983 to Feb/2010 were found (accessed on Feb/11/2010).
- Criteria for inclusion: <u>descriptive studies</u> (on physiological, psychological, emotional, and cultural aspects) and intervention studies (describing measurement instruments for labor pain).
- Sample were eligible for the analysis:
 59 complete articles + 6 textbooks + 3 dissertations + 2 dictionaries

- 4. Identification of defining attributes (Definition & DC):
- Sensorial and emotional experiences that vary from pleasant to unpleasant occurs during labor and delivery.
- Perception of pain ranging from mild to intense; intensity and frequency of pain tends to increase from beginning of dilation to expulsion period.

Rezende Filho & Montenegro (2006); Macedo (2007); Lowe (1987; 2002); Rowlands & Permezel (1998); McCool, Smith & Aberg (2004); Costa, Figueredo & Pacheco (2006); Ohel *et al* (2007); Trout (2005); Fridh & Gaston-Johanson (1990); Lundgen & Dalberg (1998); DeCS, (2008); MeSH (2005); Davim, Torres & Dantas (2008); MaC Evilly & Buggy (1996); Tseng & Juu-Su (2008); Brownridge (1995); Backer *et al* (2001); Weber (1996); Dias, Coler & Garcia (1997); Dias (1996).

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DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS: ACUTE PAIN*	DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS: LABOR PAIN
Change in appetite	Altered muscle tension
Change in blood pressure	Altered neuroendocrine function
Changes in heart rate	Altered urinary function
Change in respiratory rate	Change in blood pressure
Coded report	Changes in heart rate
Diaphoresis	Change in respiratory rate
Distraction behavior	Diaphoresis
Expressive behavior	Distraction behavior
Facial mask	Expressive behavior
Guarding behavior	Facial mask
Narrowed focus	Increased appetite
Observed evidence of pain	Lack of appetite
Positioning to avoid pain	Narrowed focus
Protective gestures	Nausea
Pupillary dilation	Noted evidence of uterine contraction
Reports pain	Observed evidence of pain
Self-focus	Perineum pressure feeling
Sleep pattern disturbance	Positioning to avoid pain
	Protective gestures
(* NANDA-I, 2012)	Pupillary dilation
	Reports pain
	Self-focus
	Sleep pattern disturbance
	Vomiting

- 5 Development of a model case: all attributes
- 6 Development of additional cases:
- Borderline: some attributes
- Contrary case: concept antonym to the concept of interest.

Model case

C.S, 26 years, married, gestational age of 39 weeks and 6 days, arrived at the hospital with her husband and was admitted to the maternity for her first labor experience. During the interview with the nurse, she mentioned that the couple had wanted the pregnancy and that they were happily awaiting the arrival of their child. She feels pain in the back, which started approximately 8 hours earlier (Referred pain according to VAS = 7). She also mentions pain in the lower part of the abdomen and fetal movements. She denies vaginal fluid loss and bleeding. The presence of expressive pain behavior in the form of groans is observed between the responses to the anamnesis, as well as facial expressions of pain. After an obstetrical examination, she was diagnosed in the active phase of labor. The uterine dynamics showed three contractions, two of which were effective four centimeters of dilation and thin colon with 70% ripening. The bag spontaneously ruptured and contractions shortened during the period; the parturient woman reported intensified pain in the abdomen, perineum, groin and thighs until the expulsion period (Verbal pain report according to VAS = 10). Delivery took place without problems, resulting in the birth of a male infant. Although the mentioned being tired, the postpartum woman indicated pleasure and personal accomplishment as a result of the delivery and the arrival of the child.

Contrary Case

H.B.O., 33 years, married, arrived at the hospital accompanied by her partner, fourth pregnancy, gestational age of 38 weeks, reporting three earlier normal births. During the interview, she mentioned fluid loss. The examination revealed nine centimeters of dilation and presentation height at +3 (DeLee Plane), having reached the expulsion period. She gave birth in the presence of her companion, denied pain, except for mild pressure on the perineum, highlighting the absence of pain during her previous delivery.

7- Antecedents and consequence:

Antecedents ---- 2 Related Factors:

- Dilatation period: latent phase, active phase, transition phase of labor
- Expulsion period

Melzack (2001); Ackeley & Ladwig (2008); Davim, Torres & Dantas (2008); Rezende Filho & Montenegro (2006); Tseng & Juu-Su (2008); DeCS, (2008); MeSH (2005); Trout (2005); Rowlands & Permezel (1998); Backer et al (2001); Weber (1996); Lowe (1996; 1987); McCallum & Reis (2006); Mazoni & Carvalho (2008); Maul (2007).

7- Antecedents and consequences:

- B-Consequences resulting from the experiences of the phenomenon
- Tiring: wearing, exhaustion, suffering, nervousness, tension, lack of control, agitation, aggression, anger, worry, fear, distress, obstetric experience negative, negative feelings, anxiety.
- Gives meaning to life: teach, provides personal accomplishment.
- Interferes with relationships: the mother's initial experience.

Macedo (2007); Tseng & Juu-Su (2008); Brownridge (1995); Costa *et al.*, (2003); Lang & Sorrel (2006); Hodnett (2002); McCallum & Reis (2006); Davim, Torres & Dantas (2008); Rowlands & Permezel (1998); Ruano *et al* (2007).

8 – Empirical references (methods to enable measuring the phenomenon)

MAIN EMPIRICAL REFERENTS

- 1. VAS Visual Analogue Scale: 0 no pain/10 worst possible pain (McCaffery & Pasero, 1999).
- 2. McGill Pain Questionnaire: Short Form (Melzack, 1975).
- 3. PCS Pain Catastrophizing Scale (Sullivan, 2009).
- 4. UAB Pain Behavior Scale (Nepumuceno et al., 1982)
- 5. VRS Verbal Pain Scale: mild-moderate-severe (Jensen & Karoly 1992)
- **6.** NRS Numeric Rating Scale: 11 point (Hawker et al., 2011).
- 7. McGill Pain Questionnaire (Melzack, 1975).
- **8.** Pupillometer, manual. Measure the pupil diameter. (Haines, 2003
- **9.** Cardiotocograph: *No-Stress Test* . *Toco:* records the intensity of uterine muscle tone.

(Denipote, 2009; Sundström, Rosén & Rosén, 2000).

Phase B - The content validation

What is the opinion of experts about Labor pain as a new diagnosis?

Expert

- Nurse specialized in Obstetrical Nursing
- Professional experience in labor for at least one year

Sample n = 10

Labor pain (as a new NDx)

Domain 12 – Comfort

Class 1 – Physical Comfort

Domain and Class validated with scores > 60%

ACUTE PAIN: DEFINITION

LABOR PAIN: DEFINITION

"Unpleasant sensory and emotional experience arising from actual or potential tissue damage or described in terms of such damage (International Association for the Study of Pain); sudden or slow onset of any intensity from mild to severe with an antecipated or predictable end and a duration of < 6 months."

Sensorial and emotional experience that varies from pleasant to unpleasant and during labor, resulting occurs from complex interactions among clinical, hormonal and mechanical aspects of labor and from nociceptive stimuli deriving from cervical progress, uterine contractions, cervical dilation and fetal descent, molded by cognitive events of physical, cultural, emotional, psychological origin and sensorial perceptions that vary from low to intense, tending to increase in intensity and frequency from the dilation period to the expelling stage.

NANDA-I (2010, p.375); NANDA-I (2012, p.478).

Brownridge (1995); Costa (2003); Dias, Coler & Garcia (1997), Hodnett (2002), Lowe (2002); Macedo (2007); Melzack (2001); Melzack (1975); Montenegro & Rezende Filho (2011), Rowlands & Permezel (1998); Weber (1996); Zugaib (2012); Johnson (2012); Friedman (1978)

- 23 defining characteristics were identified in Phase A (concept analysis)
- Content validation: 21 were validated

Noted evidence of uterine contraction (0.95)

Altered muscle tension (0.93)

Change in respiratory rate (0.85)

Expressive behavior (0.85)

Facial mask (0.85)

Observed evidence of pain (0.85)

Diaphoresis (0.83)

Reports pain (0.80)

Changes in heart rate (0.80)

N=9
Defining
Characteristics
were strongly
indicative of
Labor Pain

Change in blood pressure (0.78)

Distraction behavior (0.75)

Sleep pattern disturbance (0.73)

Altered urinary function (0.73)

Positioning to avoid pain (0.70)

Nausea (0.68)

Lack of appetite (0.63)

Vomiting (0.60)

Protective gestures (0.58)

Self-focus (0.58)

Altered neuroendocrine function (0.58)

Narrowed focus (0.55)

N=12
Defining
Characteristics
were validated
with scores
> 0.50 to < 0.80

Defining Characteristics:

validated n=21

unrepresentative (scores < 0.50) n= 2 (Pupillary dilatation and Increased appetite)

Total DCV = 0.73

Related Factors:

Dilatation period

- Latent phase
- Active phase

Expulsion period

Validated RF Scores > 60%

CONCLUSION PHASE A

Labor Pain

- Results from complex interactions among clinical, hormonal and mechanical aspects of labor.
- Interactions generate <u>nociceptive stimuli</u> arising from cervical ripening, uterine contractions, cervical dilation and fetal descent.
- Manifestation of the phenomenon is modulated by cognitive events of physical, cultural, emotional, psychological origins and sensory perception (ranging from pleasant to unpleasant experience).

CONCLUSION PHASE B

Experts mostly approved Labor Pain diagnosis as:

- insertion into Domain 12 Comfort
- and Class 1 Physical Comfort
- definition
- 21 defining characteristics
- 2 related factors

CONCLUSION

- The methodological approach reinforced the comprehension that the phenomenon *labor pain* should be expressed differently from *acute pain*.
- The construction of the concept "Labor pain" and the evidences observed in the content validation process justify the proposal of this new diagnosis to the NANDA-I taxonomy.

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