

Qualitative Analysis of Empathic Behavior Process Among Home-Visiting Nurses in Japan

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Purpose

Empathic Support Behavior Scale ver.2 (Ueno, et al.,2013) consists of two factors; Sense of responsibility and Automatization of understanding and action. According to averages of both of factors, home-visiting nurses were the highest in the following four groups; internal medicine, surgery, psychiatry and home-visiting nursing stations. This study attempted to clarify the structure and process of home-visiting nurses' empathic behavior to patients.

Methods

We used the Modified Grounded Theory Approach to conduct semi-structured interviews with 10 home-visiting nurses at six home-visiting nursing stations in Japan.

Subjects' gender; all females

Age, $M=47.6$ years, $SD= 6.6$

Nursing experience, $M=24.4$ years, $SD=7.9$

Home-visit nursing experience, $M=11.8$ years, $SD=4.3$

Conclusion

Home-visiting nurses' empathic behavior was a process during which the nurses were spending time with patients and consciously getting close to patients' minds. The nurses gained an understanding of the patients' suffering during their close relationship with the patients by using these nine skills.

Results

Fundamental attitudes of nursing

- Concerning nurses' relationship with patients as individuals
- Helping to make patients' live their own lives peacefully
- Always meeting each patient as if it could be the last time

Imagining patients' suffering

- Noticing anything unusual and imaging the possible reasons
- Becoming part of a patients' daily life
- Simulated experience through nurses' imagination

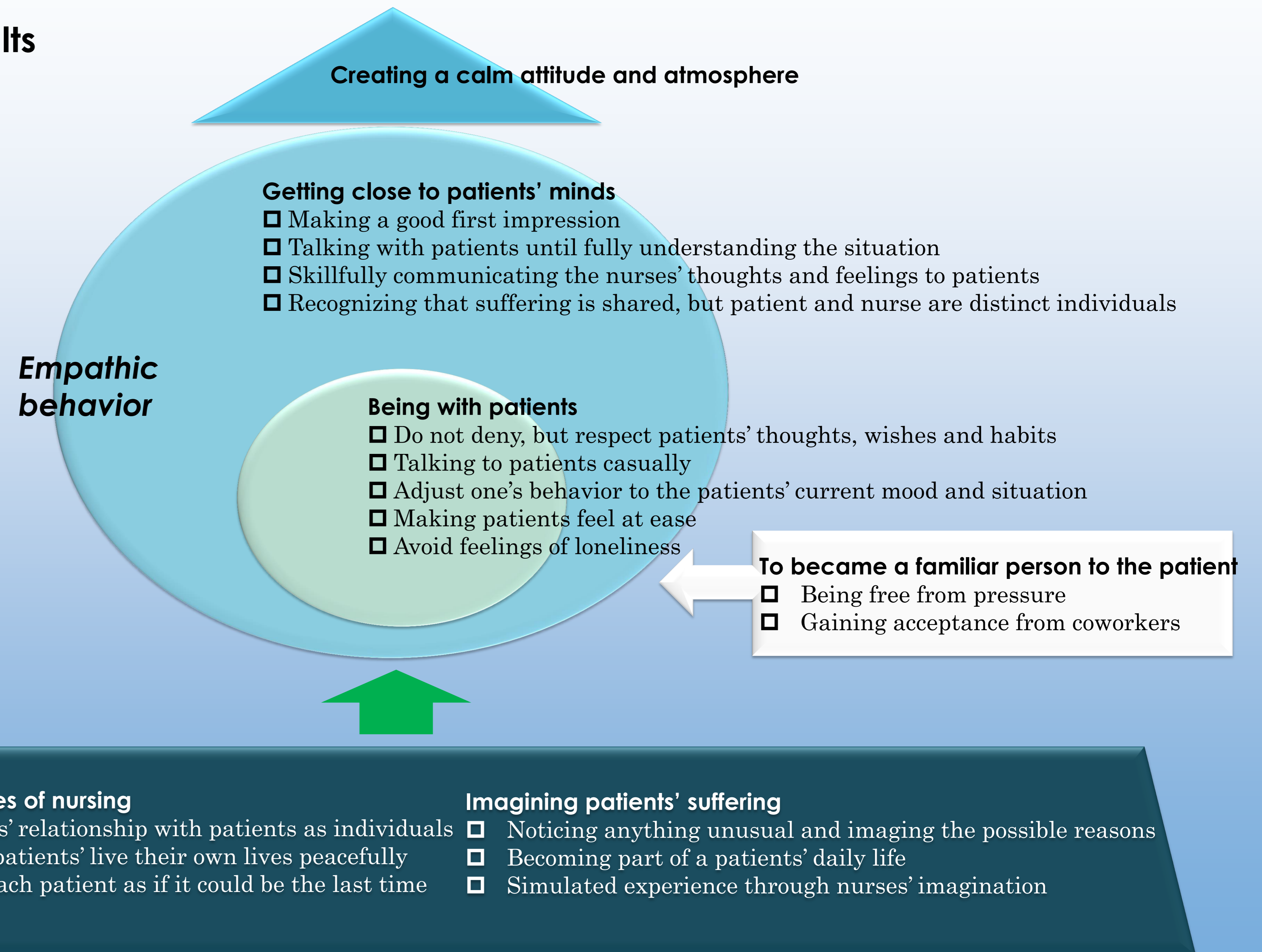


Figure 1. Concepts and structure of the Empathic Behavior Process