INTRODUCTION

As cultural diversity among the patient population in the United States continues to grow, so does the need for Transcultural Nursing to evolve in nursing education and practice. This statement is based on the premise that in order to provide effective and culturally competent care, nurses must possess the knowledge and understanding of the cultural values, beliefs, and practices of the diverse patient population being served. In addition, evidence has shown that having a more diverse student and healthcare provider population may improve the knowledge and understanding of diverse cultures, ultimately leading to more optimal patient outcomes.

METHODS / DEFINITIONS

Methods

A literature review was performed using the following key words in a database:

- Transcultural Nursing
- Cultural Competence
- Effective Care

Definitions

Kawulich (2011) defines transcultural nursing as an interpretation of professional nursing skill cultural concepts.

In 1981, nursing theorist Madeline Leininger defined cultural competence as an individual's ability to identify, understand, and resolve the knowledge of cultural values, beliefs, and practices of diverse patient populations to maximize effective care of care.

Nursing researchers Davidson and Giger (1991) defined effective care in health practice which involves the use of transcultural knowledge and skills to guide the care implemented by healthcare providers.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS...

NURSING EDUCATION

- Increased diversity in school and practice settings
- Increased awareness of cultural diversity within the curriculum and clinical learning environment
- Increased diversity training in the simulation environment

NURSING WORK FORCE

- Increased diversity in the workforce
- Improvement in education and training on diversity for workforce
- Increased diversity in nursing schools
- Increased diversity in healthcare settings
- Increased diversity in nursing leadership
- Increased diversity in healthcare governance

NEED FOR STUDENT AND FACULTY DIVERSITY

Clinical instructor Bonita Knuckles, with a group at a large university in Northern California. The nursing student population of over 200, student diversity was observed at 5% Caucasian, 35% Asian, 15% African American, and 7% Hispanic. The faculty diversity was observed at 75% Caucasian, 25% Asian, and 1% African American and Hispanic combined.

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