Strategies to support use of the Nursing Process in Local Primary Health Care practice in Namibia

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Problem Statement

- It is expected that the registered nurse in PHC uses the nursing process.
- It is not clear whether registered nurses utilise the nursing process effectively in this regard.
Research question

What are the views of registered nurses and their supervisors on how registered nurses in local level Primary Health Care in Namibia use the nursing process in their daily practice
Purpose

-Twofold: firstly, to explore and describe use of the nursing process in PHC
-secondly, to develop strategies that would support use of the nursing process in PHC
Objectives

- To explore and describe the use of the nursing process in clinics, healthcare centres and outreach
- To determine the views of supervisors about use of the nursing process in such PHC facilities.
- To identify the constraints.
- To develop a conceptual framework on which to base the formulation of relevant strategies
Objectives continue

- To incorporate the findings of this study into the development of strategies to support registered nurses in their utilisation of the nursing process with regard to the delivery of PHC.
- To validate the appropriateness of these strategies
Research Design and Method

- A quantitative approach was used
- Survey design using questionnaires.

- Population and sample:
  Two groups.
  236 registered nurses.
  39 registered nurses supervisors.
Findings

Sixty seven (67) role functions were rated across the different phases of the nursing process.

Well done: 30% (No=20)
Moderate: 45% (No=30)
Urgent action required: 25% (No=17)

17 areas of concern
Seventeen (17) main areas of concern in PHC practice in Namibia were identified.
- Rated as being below average by more than 20% of the total participants
- Areas of concern were grouped and they fall under five PHC elements as follow:
Areas of Concern grouped
Environmental health related issues
Nutrition and food supply
Health Communication
Outreach
Research
Management

Nursing process
Procedure

Research findings: challenges → Reasoning map → Development of strategies → Validation of strategies
Development of Strategies

Three strategies:
- Strategy 1: Addressing the contributing factors to challenges.
- Strategy 2: Strategy regarding research.
- Strategy 3: Strategy on managerial aspects
Implementation activities

- In-service education
- Use community health ambassadors
- Regular supervisory support visits
- Strengthen Transport coordination
Strengthen support of PHC outreach/mobile teams
Create and fill more posts
Assist nurses to consider difference between urban and rural areas challenges
Implementation continue

- Update nurses on Communication channels and referral system.
- Establish/ strengthen regional research committees/forums for nurses
- Create and fill more nursing staff posts to minimise the workload
Maintain strong nursing professional associations/organisations in order to ensure professional integrity and recognition.
- Registered nurses to use all phases of the nursing process.
- Registered nurses fulfil more activities related to the motivation and education of the community.
- Greater participation of registered nurses in meaningful research activities.
Home and environmental assessment
Orphans and vulnerable children
Water and sanitation
Community Outreach
Research
Validation of strategies

- Meetings held with registered nurses, PHC Health Programme administrators and PHC supervisors
- Strategies developed were presented
- Comments were received and adopted as part of strategies
Conclusions

- Registered nurses in Namibia fulfill the nursing process roles in PHC practice to a large extent.
- Supervisors are in agreement with the above statement
- Some constraints hamper performance.
- Strategies needed to be developed to support nurses.
- Strategies developed considered relevant.
The instrument could not yield data on observed behavior.

-The fact that the study adopted a comprehensive view making it not possible to specify each individual function.
Recommendations

- Launch the strategies officially and motivate that the strategies be accepted.
- Strengthen pre-service teaching on nursing process in PHC.
-- PHC managers to support the registered nurses in their role in home care.
- Further research on implementation of strategies developed.
Contribution

The study can contribute to knowledge in the areas of nursing practice, and the delivery of Primary health care.
END THANK YOU !!!