One of the significant issues in nursing: how to incorporate descriptions of nursing care into the health record in a manner that is proportionate with its importance to patients’ welfare. As the development of the Electronic Health Record (EHR), and the Nationwide Health Information Network, for which the EHR is foundational, proceed at an ever-increasing pace, these challenges become even more important. The answer is through developing standardized terminologies in Nursing informatics.
Do you believe that developing standardized terminology in Nursing is significant with the birth of Electronic Health Records?

A  Yes

B  No
The benefits of using standardized nursing terminologies:

- better communication among nurse and other healthcare providers
- increased visibility of nursing interventions
- improved patient care
- enhanced data collection to evaluate nursing care outcomes
- greater adherence to standards of care
- facilitation of assessment of nursing competency
NANDA (North American Nursing Diagnosis Association)
* most recognizable
* NANDA is a set of nursing diagnosis helping a practitioner to codify a clinical judgment about an individual, family, or community and their response to actual or potential health problems. This differs from a medical diagnosis, which deals with a disease or medical condition rather than a human response to symptoms or conditions (NANDA International, 2010).

NIC (Nursing Intervention Classification)
*NIC contains the interventions that nurses do for patients, either independently or collaboratively. An intervention is defined as "any treatment, based upon clinical judgment and knowledge, that a nurse performs to enhance patient/client outcomes." (Center for Nursing Classification & Clinical Effectiveness, University of Iowa, 2010)

NOC (Nursing Outcomes Classification)
*NOC contains a listing of patient/client outcomes which are designed to evaluate the effects of nursing interventions. The Center for Nursing Classification and Clinical Effectiveness states that “standardized outcomes are necessary for documentation in electronic records, for use in clinical information systems, for the development of nursing knowledge and the education of professional nurses.” (Center for Nursing Classification & Clinical Effectiveness, University of Iowa, 2010)
*The Omaha System is a practice and documentation standardized taxonomy designed to assist in the documentation of care throughout the continuum of clinical care, including home health, ambulatory clinics, and hospital settings (Omaha System, 2010). It focuses not just on identifying problems, but also on interventions and outcomes.*
Which of the following Nursing terminologies are you knowledgeable about and comfortable in using?

A. OMAHA
B. NANDA
C. NIC
D. NOC
E. NMDS
The Standardized Nursing Terminologies: A National Survey of Nurses’ Experiences and Attitudes
Results:

- no significant difference between the clinical nurses and academic nurses in terms of their experience with SNT
- No significant difference between the informatics and non-informatics nurse on their experience with selected SNT. (Informatics nurses reported more familiarity with NIC than did non-informatics nurses, but the numerical difference is not enough to be considered statistically significant.)
**Strengths of the study:** Given the open participation and anonymity of this study, nurses were free to report their range of experiences with, and express their true opinions about the SNTs without any adverse consequences to themselves or others.

**Weaknesses of the study:** Like all Web surveys, no one can be certain of the accuracy of the answers. Also, 95% of the respondents reported living in the US; thus, findings cannot be extrapolated to the international SNT experience.

**The Future of the study:** Like any interesting research project, our survey answered some questions, but it raised many more. We plan to follow up with these questions in another survey in the spring of 2011. We anticipate that the Nursing Informatics Landscape’ will have a dramatically different appearance by then. Stay Tuned!
References:


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