


Diagnosis

Chapter 17

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Nursing Diagnosis:

A statement that describes a client's actual or potential health problems that a nurse can identify and for which she can order nursing interventions to maintain the health status, to reduce, eliminate or prevent alterations/changes.

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- Is the problem statement that the nurse makes regarding a client's condition which she uses to communicate professionally.
- It uses the critical-thinking skills analysis and synthesis in order to identify client strengths & health problems that can be resolved/prevented by collaborative and independent nursing interventions.

Nursing Diagnosing

- Is the 2nd step of the nursing process.
- The process of reasoning or the clinical act of identifying problems.
- Purpose: To identify health care needs
- To diagnose in nursing: it means to analyze assessment information and derive meaning from this analysis.

NANDA – North American Nursing Diagnosis Association

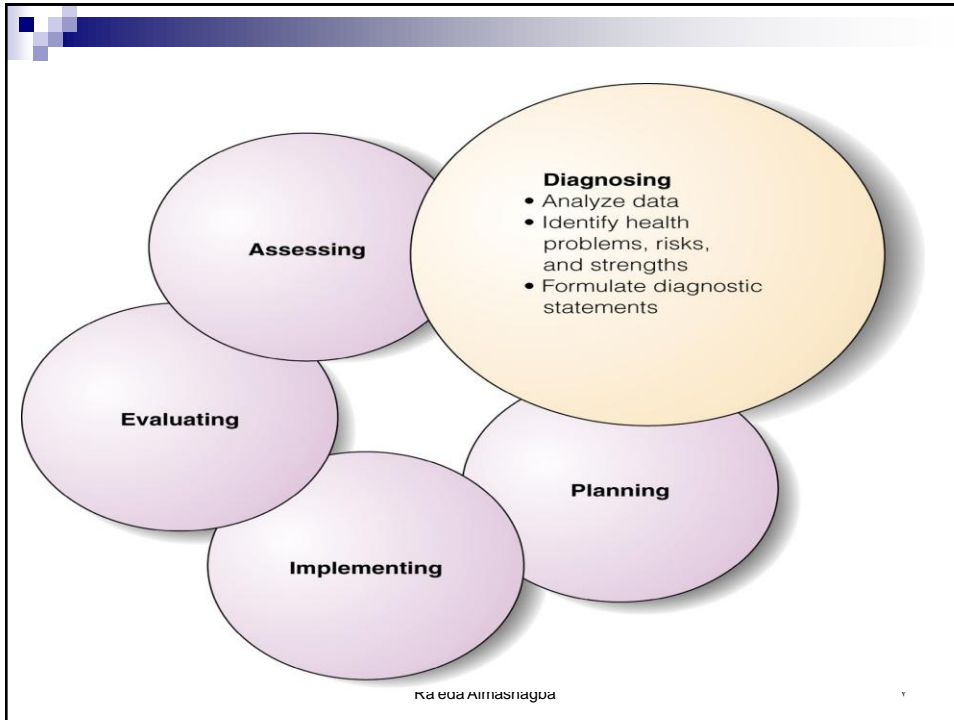
- Identifies nursing functions
- Creates classification system
- Establishes diagnostic labels
- Purpose: *“to develop, refine, and promote a taxonomy of nursing diagnostic terminology of general use for professional nurses”*.

NURSING DIAGNOSIS :

Eg.

- Problem : Fever →
nursing diagnosis :
Alteration in
thermoregulatory
function: or
hyperthermia related to
inflammatory process





3 activities in Diagnosing:

■ **DIAGNOSING =**
Data Analysis +
Problem Identification+
Formulation of Nsg Diagnosis

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Components of a nursing diagnosis: PES or PE

- Problem statement/diagnostic label/definition = P
- Etiology/related factors/causes = E
- Defining characteristics/signs and symptoms = S

Characteristics of Nursing Diagnosis

- It states a clear and concise health problem.
- It is derived from existing evidences about the client.
- It is potentially amenable to nursing therapy.
- It is the basis for planning and carrying out nursing care.

TYPES OF NURSING DIAGNOSES

- 1. Actual nursing diagnosis
- 2. Risk nursing diagnosis
- 3. Possible nursing diagnosis
- 4. Wellness nursing diagnosis
- 5. Syndrome nursing diagnosis

Actual Nursing Diagnosis

- a client problem that is present at the time of the nursing assessment. It is based on the presence of signs and symptoms.
- Examples:
 - Imbalanced Nutrition: Less than body requirements r/t decreased appetite nausea as manifested by decrease body weight .
 - Ineffective airway clearance r/t to viscous secretions as manifested by productive cough
 - Acute Pain (Chest) r/t cough 2ndary to pneumonia AMB client verbalization
 - Activity Intolerance r/t general weakness AMB client verbalization

Potential Nursing diagnosis

- one in which evidence about a health problem is incomplete or unclear therefore requires more data to support or reject it; or the causative factors are unknown but a problem is only considered possible to occur.
- Examples:
 - Possible nutritional deficit RT nausea
 - Possible low self-esteem r/t loss job
 - Possible altered thought processes r/t unfamiliar surroundings

Risk Nursing diagnosis

- is a clinical judgment that a problem does not exist, therefore no S/S are present, but the presence of RISK FACTORS indicates that a problem is only likely to develop unless nurse intervene or do something about it.
- No subjective or objective cues are present therefore the factors that cause the client to be more vulnerable to the problem is the etiology of a risk nursing diagnosis.
- Examples:
 - Risk for Impaired skin integrity (left ankle) r/t decrease peripheral circulation in diabetes.
 - Risk for Constipation r/t inactivity and insufficient fluid intake
 - Risk for infection r/t compromised immune system.
 - Risk for injury r/t decreased vision after cataract surgery.

Wellness nursing diagnosis

- clinical judgment about an individual, family and community in transition from a specific level of wellness to a higher level of wellness
 - E.g Knowledge deficit regarding breast feeding RT first time .
 - E.g Readiness for + higher level of wellness
 - Rudeness for enhance family coping.

Syndrome nursing diagnosis

- comprises of a cluster of problems
 - Format: 1 part statement E.g -:
 - rape trauma syndrome)
 - risk for disuse syndrome.

Formula in writing nursing diagnosis: PES or PE

- Actual nursing diagnosis
 - = Patient problem + Etiology – replace the (+) symbol with the words “RELATED TO” abbreviated as r/t.
 - = Problem + Etiology + S/S
- Risk Nursing diagnosis = Problem + Risk Factors
- Possible nursing diagnosis = Problem + Etiology

Etiology (Related/ Risk Factors) → the **probable cause of the health problem**; may include client's behavior, environmental factors or the interaction of the two;

NANDA-“ related to” to describe the etiology or likely cause

Example:

- Activity intolerance **related to decreased cardiac output.**
- Ineffective breast-feeding **related to first-time experience**
- Altered bowel elimination; constipation **related to insufficient fluid intake.**

- **Problem Statement** → describes the client's health problem or response for which nursing therapy is given
- **Qualifiers** → **added words** to give additional meaning to the diagnostic statement
 - **Altered** → change from baseline
 - **Impaired** → made worse, weakened, damaged
 - **Decreased** → smaller in size, amount or degree
 - **Ineffective** → not producing the desired effect
 - **Acute** → severe or of short duration
 - **Chronic** → lasting a long time

Activities during diagnosis

- Compare data against standards
- Cluster or group data
- Data analysis after comparing with standards
- Identify gaps and inconsistencies in data
- Determine the client's health problems, health risks, strengths
- Formulate Nursing Diagnosis – prioritize nursing diagnosis based on what problem endangers the client's life

Nursing diagnosis

Risk nursing diagnosis

= **Problem + Etiology (risk factor)**

- **Risk for infection** r/t surgical procedure.
- The client will demonstrate no signs or symptoms of infection.