Conceptual Framework in Nursing

Introduction

A conceptual framework is an approach to ideas or thoughts and the most probable criteria which can be used exhibit the details. The frameworks act as maps to the proposed subject such that the route or path which will be followed by the researcher as they go about the usual stages of research work. In this essay the article “Attributes of spiritual care in nursing practice” by Rick Sawatzky and Barbara Pesut will be used to demonstrate the incorporation of the theoretical framework in the nursing article. This article will be used to evaluate ways of guiding research projects using the conceptual framework.

Discussion

Introducing the conceptual framework used in research article

The article “Attributes of spiritual care in nursing practice” uses an explanation purpose of the various research techniques demonstrated in the articles bid to explain the holistic nature of spiritualism in nursing practice. Consequently, it falls under the descriptive categories of the conceptual frameworks hence giving the reader a vivid view of the spiritual attributes of the nursing practice (Sawatzky and Pesut, 2005).

Descriptive conceptual frameworks are quite applicable in the article as it generates an interest of the reader into the various concepts of the theoretical conceptual framework. We can also identify the selfless nursing model in the article as it is indicated that for a nurse to effectively provide adequate nursing care during her/his practice, the element of being selfless in the
various approaches is essential. Similarly, after identifying the framework and purpose of the article in the nursing field, the methodologies, as well as, the statistical aspect of the researcher are identified much easily (Polit and Tatano, 2004).

Evaluating how framework guides the research project and relates to instruments of study

The descriptive category of the conceptual framework is used to determine the nature of approach that is applauded by the article. This includes the incorporation of various aspects of the study such as adopting an explanation method of identifying the relationship between the scientific, religious, and existential approach to nursing. For each of the dimensions of selfless nursing model, the researcher uses the framework to indulge in a self-explanatory view of the concepts (Sawatzky, 2005).

This conceptual framework enables the researcher to create a distinct relationship between the theoretical and empirical literature in addressing spiritual care in nursing practice. This is evidenced by the intense description of the theoretical aspect of holistic nursing and relating it with the empirical aspect. Such would not have been made possible had the researchers adopted other forms of conceptual frameworks (Polit, 2004).

Explanation as a set of activities that are aimed at presenting the world with new facts or producing new relationships in existing findings is a vital aspect of the article. This is because according to the nature of literature review adopted by the researchers, most nurses have never understood the definitive relationship between various phenomena of the nursing practice. This is in line with lack of understanding of the criteria which should be applied in holistic nursing care to ensure that nursing is not restricted to ensuring that patients are physical well but it includes other dimensions of the being. This could be a new revelation to new nurses in the field while seniors could be presented with a clear explanation by the rich information in the literature review of the article (Sawatzky, 2005).
The descriptive framework relates to the article especially in the data collection methodology where subsequent observation is a reliable data collection method. This entails observing the nurses at work in different circumstances and at regular intervals to determine their ability to incorporate the various dimensions of holistic nursing. This results in obtaining descriptive statistics for the research activity thus ensuring that the raw data describes the given scenario. Similarly, testing of hypothesis as a technique in data collection can be used in this conceptual framework to determine the degree of selflessness that is included by a nurse in their work. Though difficult to measure explaining the amount of input of each approach is essential in determining the level of selfless (Polit, 2004).

Consequently, the descriptive conceptual model enables the researcher to use descriptive statistics in the article. The descriptive data is used to portray a vivid manner through which the information is described. Descriptive data is essential development of the articles methodologies as it gives the reader a clear explanation of the frequency in occurrence in various aspects of the research objectives (Sawatzky, 2005).

The data analysis and presentation aspect is also exhibited by use descriptive data analysis techniques where the measures of central tendency are derived. Consequently, use of correlation and regression is paramount to analyze the information as a way of making it easier to present in scatter diagrams, as well as, histograms. The words used to interpret the results of the research study are all the same descriptive in such a way that a reader who for-goes the data presentation section is furnished sufficiently by the data interpretation section (Sawatzky, 2005).

Examples of the impact and/or importance of the theoretical framework to nursing

One of the examples of theoretical frame work in nursing practice is that it enables the nurse to initiate intentional dialogue with the client. The nurse in such a situation has to show that the patient is the most important person in the nurse-client relationships. Such is made possible by creating an impression and atmosphere which enables the client to share his/her feelings.
regarding the situation or how they are feeling. Similarly, by employing the intentional dialogue, the nurse is able to impact greatly on the patients emotions hence more opportunities are opened for sharing (Polit, 2004).

In the real world, the well being of ones health is made up of the spiritual, emotional and physical wellbeing of the individual. Thus in order for the nurse to attain a holistic approach to nursing practice they have to ensure that they win over creates an atmosphere which will enable the intentional dialogue to be fruitful. Consequently, successful communication is a form of therapy which is crucial in a number of occasions as through sharing, the patient is able to themselves of a number of burdens which could be hindering their healing (Polit, 2004).

The theoretical framework has a great impact on the development of a link between theory, practice and research. This is because the nature of information learnt in class is mere theory if not put into practice. Similarly, the practical approach of theory is challenging as converting knowledge learnt in class to practice may not be as easy as depicted by the lecturer. However, after carrying out research activities like the one discussed above, the nurse is able to develop a more critical approach to conversion of theory to practice (Sawatzky, 2005).

The other importance of the theoretical framework in nursing is that it enabled the researchers in the article above to employ a deductive reasoning approach to come up with the descriptive conceptual framework. This involved using the general picture of the spiritual aspect of nursing to engage the scientific, religious and existential approaches all of which are braches of holistic nursing. Henceforth the framework provides a vivid explanation of the methodologies used in the study as the deductive approach guides the researcher in developing the route (Polit, 2004).

Concluding statements

The article “Attributes of spiritual care in nursing practice” incorporates a micro-range
theory as it tends to relate concepts which are solid in reality as research and practice have proved them to be necessary in nursing practice. Consequently, this could be one reason as to why the selfless approach of the descriptive category of conceptual frameworks was used. These have been significant in developing a close relationship between the framework and major elements of the study such as methodology. Similarly, the theoretical framework has portrayed major impacts on the nursing practice thus making it an important component of nursing research.

References

Polit, D.F. and Tatano, C. (2004), Nursing research: principles and methods. 7th ed. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins