

Free literature review on concept analysis in the literature

[Health & Medicine](#), [Disease](#)



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Introduction

Concept analysis involves processes designed to familiarize a researcher with a particular concept based on his or her field of study (Southern Louisiana University, 2013). In the field of nursing, some of the major concepts include; managed care, health, nursing, coping and parenting (Snider, 2003). In reference to the concept of coping, an analysis will make it possible to communicate meanings, feelings and understandings related to it.

Definition of concept: Hope in coping with terminal illness

According to Johnson (2007), a terminal illness is a disease that has proven to be beyond possible cure or adequate treatment thus leading to death as an inevitable end. Some of these are progressive illnesses such as; cancer, heart disease, chronic respiratory infection, diabetes and renal failure. Hope on the other hand, is a desire for something to happen; expectations of good

things to occur. In relation to terminal illness, this is a very crucial concept. Dealing with terminal illnesses is the most difficult situation for the patient and those who love him. Hope provides the strength to face the pain and challenges with courage knowing that things will get better in future even with the reality of imminent death. A comprehensive analysis of the concept of hope in coping with terminal illnesses will give the nurses and other medical professionals insight into the impact of the illnesses on the patients and how to handle them appropriately (Johnson, 2007). This analysis seeks to highlight the impact and characteristics of hope as a concept in dealing with terminal illnesses.

My definition

In my own opinion, hope is significant in virtually every challenge individuals face in life. It may not necessarily be a health condition. At home, workplace, or even in school, people derive strength from the belief that somehow things are going to get better in time. In nursing, this is a concept that helps patients cope with the pain, treatment processes, expenses incurred, depression and the effect of the illness on loved ones. This can be empirically measured by studying how the patient handles the illness emotionally- acceptance, approving treatment plans to lengthen his life span and encouraging his family to be strong.

Characteristics of the concept

In concept analysis, it is vital to describe the concept in measurable terms (Toftagen, 2010). This will allow for empirical research on its impact. Some of the characteristics include;

- Personal qualities- this is reference to the patient's own attributes, how he views life and copes with the challenges (Johnson, 2007). Individuals with strong personalities are more likely to face complications with courage and strength. This is the most vital characteristic in dealing with illness and imminent death. It determines how cooperative the patient is with the recommended treatment plans and medication. He is able to accept the fact that death is unavoidable.

- Interpersonal relationships- this dictates the nature of interaction between the patient, medical professionals and patient's family. The reality of death may lead to hostile behavior from a patient who may think the doctors and nurses are not doing enough to cure him. It is crucial to realize that the situation is unchangeable thus cooperate in making life comfortable for the patient in his last days. This is made possible through effective communication.

- Characteristic of positive expectations explores the need for hope regardless of how bleak the case may be. This involves focusing on treatment plans that may lengthen the available time and ensuring the patient spends as much time as possible with his family (Snider, 2003). This makes dealing with illness easier.

- Spirituality- this is the association of the concept of hope with religious beliefs of the patient. For instance, a Christian suffering from a terminal illness may require support from the Bible scriptures and prayer from loved ones in order to accept that everything happens for a reason, even suffering. This can be measured through observation of the impact it has on the patient's attitude towards his condition.

- Help and care- nursing is based on caring. The provision of quality care for the patient, in a warm and friendly environment, will have an impact on how he deals with his illness. Good treatment will give him a reason to hope for good things in life within the limited time.

Model case

Conclusion

Concept analysis should be done comprehensively in developing knowledge and theory in nursing as a discipline. This will facilitate the applicability of the concept. This analysis is evidence based thus providing the knowledge and insight into the field. The provision of medical care has been greatly improved; however, there are challenges still evident. Analysis processes seek to address these challenges in respect to the concepts applicable in nursing.

Reference

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