

Fundamentals



Critical thinking A continuous process characterized by open-mindedness, continual inquiry, and perseverance, combined with a willingness to look at each unique patient situation and determine which identified assumptions are true and relevant

Recognizing that an issue exists, analyzing information, evaluating information, and making conclusions

Clinical Decisions in Nursing Practice Clinical decision making requires critical thinking.

Clinical decision-making skills separate professional nurses from technical and ancillary staff.

Patients often have problems for which no textbook answers exist.

Nurses need to seek knowledge, act quickly, and make sound clinical decisions

ON FUNDAMENTALS SPECIFICALLY FOR YOU FOR ONLY \$13.90/PAGE Order Now Thinking and Learning Learning is a lifelong process.

Intellectual and emotional growth involves learning new knowledge, as well as refining the ability to think, solve problems, and make judgments.

The science of nursing continues to grow. Nurses need to be flexible and open to new information. Critical Thinking Skills Interpretation Inference

Explanation

Analysis

Evaluation

Self regulation Interpretation Be orderly in data collection. Look for patterns to categorize data, (nursing diagnosis). Clarify any data you are uncertain about. Inference Look at the meaning and significance of findings. Are there relationships between findings? Do the data about the patient help you see that a problem exists? Explanation Support your findings and conclusions.

Use knowledge and experience to choose strategies to use in the care of

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patients. Analysis Be open minded as you look at information about a patient.

Do not make careless assumptions. Do the data reveal what you believe is true, or are there other options? Evaluation Looking at all situations

objectively. Use criteria (expected outcomes, pain characteristics, learning objectives) to determine results of nursing actions. Reflect on your own

behavior. Self regulation Reflect on your experiences. Identify the ways you can improve you own performance. What will make you believe that you

have been professional. Concepts for a Critical Thinking Truth seeking

Open-mindedness

Analytic approach

Systematic approach

Self-confidence

Inquisitiveness

Maturity Truth seeking Seeking the true meaning of a situation, be

courageous hones and objective about asking questions. Open-

mindedness be tolerant of different views, be sensitive, to the possibility of you own prejudices, respect the right of others to have different opinions.

Analytic approach analyze potentially problematic situations, anticipate

possible results or consequences, value reason, use evidence based

knowledge. Systematic approach be organized, focused, work hard in any inquiry Self-confidence trust in your own reasoning processes.

Inquisitiveness be eager to acquire knowledge and learn explanations even when applications of the knowledge are not immediately clear. Value

learning for learning's sake. Maturity multiple solutions are acceptable, reflect on your own judgments, have cognitive maturity. Levels of critical thinking 1.

Basic

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2. Complex

3. Commitment Basic critical thinking early step in developing reason.

one right or wrong, need to learn to accept diverse opinions and advice of experts
 Complex Begin to separate themselves from experts.

analyze choices and realize there are other opinions and options
 Commitment a person anticipates when to make choices without assistance from others and accepts accountability for decisions made.

make choice based on available alternatives and support it. Critical Thinking
 competencies Scientific method

problem solving

decision making

diagnostic reasoning and inference

clinical decision making

nursing process as a competency Scientific method A series of steps followed to solve problems using reasoning. Identifying the problem, collecting data, formulating a question or hypothesis, testing the question or hypothesis, and evaluating results of the test or study. problem solving involves evaluating the solution over time to make sure that it is effective. decision making a product of critical thinking that focuses on problem resolution. diagnostic reasoning and inference the analytical process for determining a patient's health problems.

necessary before a solution. clinical decision making making a decision to improve a patient's health or maintain wellness. This means reducing the severity of the problem or resolving the problem completely. nursing process as a competency a competency when delivering patient care. the nursing process is a five step clinical decision making approach, assessment,

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diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Components of critical thinking Standards

Attitudes

Competencies

Experience

Specific knowledge base Standards refer to ethical criteria for nursing judgements, evidence based criteria used for evaluation, and criteria for professional responsibility.

Use critical thinking for the good of individuals. Attitudes guideline for how to approach a problem or decision making situation. Competencies third component, applying critical thinking components. Experience Nursing is a practice discipline, clinical learning experiences are necessary to acquire clinical decision making skills. Specific knowledge base prepares you to better anticipate and identify patients problems by understanding their origin and nature, varies by educational experience. Nursing

Process/Analysis Assessment

Diagnosis

Planning

Implementation

Evaluation Meeting With Colleagues When nurses have a formal means to discuss their experiences such as a staff meeting or a unit practice council, the dialogue allows for questions, differing viewpoints, and sharing of experiences.

When nurses are able to discuss their practices, the process validates good practice and offers challenges and constructive criticism. Caring for Groups of Patients Identify the nursing diagnoses and collaborative problems of each

patient.

Decide which are most urgent.

Consider the time it will take to care for those patients.

Consider the resources that you have to manage each problem.

Consider how to involve the patients as participants in care.

Decide how to combine activities.

Decide which nursing care procedures to delegate.

Discuss complex cases with the health care team
Reflective Journaling
The Circle of Meaning model adapted to nursing encourages concept clarification and a search for meaning in nursing practice.

The Circle of Meaning model uses a series of questions to help you through a clinical experience and to find meaning. Critical Thinking and

Delegation
Effective communication is needed between registered nurses (RNs) and nursing assistive personnel (NAP) for giving feedback and clarifying tasks and patient status.

When patients' clinical conditions change, warranting attention by RNs, clear directions are necessary to avoid missed care.

Applying critical thinking can help an RN make the decision about when to appropriately delegate care. Critical Thinking Synthesis
A reasoning process used to reflect on and analyze thoughts, actions, and knowledge

Requires a desire

to grow intellectually

Requires the use of nursing process

to make nursing care decisions