

Conceptual Framework Reflection Paper

Melanie Ann Estonina

Department of Nursing, Alliance University

NUR 292: Foundations For Nursing Practice Clinical

Dr. Olubukola Popoola

March 1st, 2023

This reflection paper will analyze the Conceptual Framework of Alliance University Nursing School. The framework is a guide to what a nurse should fulfil and act on regarding morals, Christianity, inclusion, growth, and empathy. Alliance University Nursing School Conceptual Framework consists of Godly Living, Person, Health, Environment, Nursing, Service and Cultural Competence and each topic relates itself to nursing and scripture (Hwang 2021). Godly Living states a Christian nurse practices in cooperation with what is taught in scripture, and through being committed to worshipping God by obeying his word, studying the scripture, praying, and having faith (Hwang 2021). Person describes that the bible teaches us that we were made in Gods image so we can relate to him, and while humans have differences, we can still find common ground making our life on earth that much more meaningful (Hwang 2021). Health is at its prime when a relationship with God is present because to be healthy is to have no ailments in addition to the well-being of our physical body and mentality, soul, and spirituality (Hwang 2021). This helps us to recognize that issues in our health care systems need community and understanding and inclusion of culture (Hwang 2021). Our environment was created by God, and they influence us and our health, in other words, our actions affect our environment which affects others (Hwang 2021). Nursing is a global practice, and it is a practice that must prioritize the health of those in need, community, and speaking out for those who need care through empathy, “holistic healing” (Hwang 2021), and alleviation of pain others in need endure (Hwang 2021). To serve is to worship God, and it is how a Christian Nurse leads by good example (Hwang 2021). Service not only praises God but can change us internally and others externally (Hwang 2021). Cultural competence is a necessity in the nursing practice because it allows for the nurse to serve in the most effective way when being compassionate and considering the beliefs and needs of others (Hwang 2021).

Reflection

I agree with the chosen framework because it does provide a good foundation on how nurses should practice. I believe this because I am a Christian and I dedicate my life to serving God, learning his word, and sharing my gifts with the world. I believe that we all have the unique gift of service in one way or another and in my opinion and from what I have learned to serve others as a nurse is the work of God. While it is a Christian school, not everyone is a Christian, so I do not quiet agree with creating the framework mostly around Christianity because I believe it coincides with the concept of Cultural Competence because it does not entirely consider the beliefs of others for each concept. Although, as a Christian, I believe that these concepts instill a strong set a value that nurses should dedicate their practice to, to contribute to the betterment of humanity and self.

Development

Each concept is an essential contribution toward becoming a successful RN in the medical field. Godly Living according to the concept is dedicating self to “prayer, faith, scripture study, and through obedience to the Word of God and promoting of the Holy Spirit” (Hwang, 2021, pg. 9). The Christian values consist of Virtue, Motive, and Character (McDonald 1995) seem to have a strong relation to the nursing practice. Virtue as a Christian value is virtuous only when “fulfilling the proper function of an organism” and “are only meaningful only when they are full integrated into the life of a person” (McDonald, 1995, pg.56) this is directly related to nursing because to be a successful nurse one must dedicate their work to deliberately ensuring health function of human systems (McDonald, 1995) to save lives and this is only possible if done with whole heartedly dedicating ones practice to this amongst other aspects. The value of motive is

personal, collaborative, open to learning, and empathetic (McDonald, 1995) these are all traits of a successful nurse because one must consider this alongside their motives to work with others, trust one's intuition, learn from mistakes all while showing intentional compassionate care. Character is valued in Christianity because it means growth, denying temptation, and adapting to uncertainty to achieve growth (McDonald, 1995) a successful nurse grows through mistakes, denies any temptations to not follow the scope of practice/protocols, and adapts when faced with adversity because each shift will present itself with adversities since each patient and each day is different. The concept of person described is synonymous with the nursing scope of practice called Patient Centered Care because both concepts see the human as unique, it respects individuality whilst working to find common ground to provide the best patient care possible. Patient Centered Care is affective and has been shown to increase health care quality (Fix, 2018). To be a nurse is to serve, a nurse is in a career where a precious human life is being handled, and in using God's gift to serve others in a career that has a meaningful lasting impact is an essential concept for a successful nurse to grasp and for safety reasons and improves patient outcome (Di Massimo, et. al, 2022). Cultural competency contributes to the value of person and contributes to erasing racial disparities and improving quality in healthcare that in the past have directly affected diverse populations (Stubbe, 2020). Environment can include but is not limited to social interaction, weather, and noise. How a nurse interacts with a patient is a contribution to their environment. According to an experiment done by Rojas-Rueda et al. (2021) "Environmental exposures are an important health determinant"; therefore, the concept of environment will have a nurse take action to maintain a stable and comfortable environment for their patient to be successful. The concept of nursing being a career of community, advocacy, alleviation of agony, "holistic healing" (Hwang 2021), helping those in need, and compassion (Hwang 2021) provides

the core values of what it is to be a successful nurse because a successful nurse works with compassion and prioritizes the needs of the patient. Nursing is community because nursing is connecting, connecting the patient to their community to improve health as well as involving self in the community to be knowledgeable on resources to help patients and especially because this is a career that can help transform struggling communities into thriving ones. The concept of having a positive attitude about optimal health, addressing discrepancies in healthcare within communities, and seeing health as more than just somebody without disease (Hwang 2021). This idea will help my development as a nurse because if the community is not healed, then health care cannot be successful, especially when systems are unequal, broken, and lack resources. Even if a person does not have a disease, they can still be unwell, and if as a nurse, I do not treat the patients physical, mental, and holistic health then they may still be unwell in the “absence of disease” (Hwang 2021).

Addition and Removal of Concepts: I would add the concept of Holistic Healing because I believe spirituality in addition to physical treatments, tests and science is essential to health care whether one is religious or not. I believe this is an important concept to include because not everybody believes in God and that is important to acknowledge even for Christians so that patient centered care can improve and be more inclusive. It is said that holistic healing treats not only the body and mind but the spirit as well and has the potential to decrease need for invasive treatments or procedures (Gannotta et al. 2018). Holistic healing has also proven to lower the cost of medical bills for patients, and to even eliminate or treat chronic diseases (Gannotta et al. 2018). There are many studies using holistic healing methods as treatment alone or in addition to conventional medical practices to support this suggestion, there is just a lack of education in the medical community about these unconventional methods (Gannotta et al. 2018).

While I am a Christian, I would remove Godly Living from the concepts to make the ideas more inclusive whilst still adding in some Christian ideas to the other concepts. Instead of Godly living, I would make the concept to be Spiritual Living and research more on how a belief in a high power or religion still provides a good foundation of beliefs and values that can cross over into the practice of nursing.

The Conceptual Framework of Alliance University is a means to success for a nurse. They are a great reflection of Christian values, and even if one is not Christian many concepts can be related to living a spiritual life of appropriate morals and values. While I am a Christian, I would remove the Godly Living concept to be more inclusive to other religions, especially after learning about the importance of involving and accept other cultures in the cultural competency concept. In its place, Spiritual Living would be more appropriate and inclusive to allow for students to interpret the message in relation to their own religion, morals, and values to becoming a successful nurse.

References

- Hwang , I. (2021). *Cheryl Phenicie school of nursing - nyack.edu*. School of Nursing Student Handbook 2021-22 nyack.edu. Retrieved December 2, 2022, from <https://www.nyack.edu/files21/Nursing-Student-Handbook-2021-22.pdf>
- James Ian H. McDonald. (1995). *Christian Values: Theory and Practice in Christian Ethics Today*. T&T Clark.
- Fix, G. M., VanDeusen Lukas, C., Bolton, R. E., Hill, J. N., Mueller, N., LaVela, S. L., & Bokhour, B. G. (2018, February). *Patient-centred care is a way of doing things: How healthcare employees conceptualize patient-centred care*. Health expectations : an international journal of public participation in health care and health policy. Retrieved December 2, 2022, from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5750758/>
- Di Massimo, D. S., Catania, G., Crespi, A., Fontanella, A., Manfellotto, D., La Regina, M., De Carli, S., Rasero, L., Gatta, C., Pentella, G., Bordin, G., Croso, A., Bagnasco, A., Gussoni, G., Campani, D., Busca, E., Azzolina, D., Dal Molin, A., & On Behalf Of The Intento Study Group (2022). Intentional Rounding versus Standard of Care for Patients Hospitalised in Internal Medicine Wards: Results from a Cluster-Randomised Nation-Based Study. *Journal of clinical medicine*, 11(14), 3976. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm11143976>
- Stubbe D. E. (2020). Practicing Cultural Competence and Cultural Humility in the Care of Diverse Patients. *Focus (American Psychiatric Publishing)*, 18(1), 49–51. <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.focus.20190041>

- Rojas-Rueda, D., Morales-Zamora, E., Alsufyani, W. A., Herbst, C. H., AlBalawi, S. M., Alsukait, R., & Alomran, M. (2021). Environmental Risk Factors and Health: An Umbrella Review of Meta-Analyses. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 18(2), 704. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18020704>