

The González Family Assessment

Claudia Hidalgo

Alliance University, School of Nursing

NUR 392: Nursing Care of Children and Adolescents

Professor Lauren Ibiezugbe

March 29th, 2023

Family Identification

The González family belongs to my cousin from my father's side of the family, they've agreed to answer questions for this family assessment. The González family have a nuclear family dynamic composed of my cousin who is 33 years old, her 1-year-old daughter and her husband who is 38 years old and the father of their child. The González family lives in Havana, Cuba and they're Catholics. My cousin and her husband both graduated college, my cousin majored in pharmaceutical science and currently manufactures medicine in a laboratory and her husband majored in nursing and currently works in a hospital emergency room. When it comes to parental roles both my cousin and her husband equally contribute and consult with one another regarding parenting, finances, and decision making. The González family enjoys recreational activities during the weekends when they're both free from work, this includes going to the park as a family or staying at home enjoying music, reading to their daughter, and completing house chores.

Developmental Stage

Regarding the current developmental stage, the González family is childbearing with an infant according to Duvall's developmental theory (pg.15). The history of their family unit began when my cousin was introduced to her husband through mutual friends. They began to date and eventually decided to get married and start a family. Because of the vast economic hardship in the island raising a family has been a challenging task but they continue to work together in order to make ends meet. Both parents were born in Havana, Cuba but experienced different family dynamics growing up. My cousin came from a nuclear family dynamic while her husband was raised in a single parent household. My cousin is an only child and focused on schooling while her parents worked and maintained the household; her husband was not an only child but

also focused on schooling and began working during adolescence to help his mom with financial responsibilities. Their daughter is 1 year old, she was born healthy at 40 weeks gestation and is currently walking and very active and curious, her mother states “She argues with you in her language when you deny her from doing or having something”.

Environmental Data

The González family currently resides in a multi-family home located in San Miguel del Padron which is a suburban town in the city of Havana. This town was once considered safe but currently due to economic crisis on the island the rate of home burglaries has significantly increased. Transportation in the island is also not the best, not everyone owns a car because of how expensive they are and those that do have a hard time maintaining it which is why a lot of people use their cars for taxi service. Public transportation is also not ideal because of the amount of time you’re likely to be standing under the hot sun or rain waiting for a bus to arrive and when they do, they’re usually packed forcing people to have to wait for the next bus. The González family commutes by taxi if they’re traveling with their daughter, and by bike or public transportation when commuting to work.

Cuba’s water supply runs through a pipe system which is not the most ideal due to the lack of maintenance that frequently results in contamination of the water and shortages. The González family usually opts for buying bottled mineral water rather than consuming pipe water by boiling it to rid the water of pathogens which is a common practice for those who cannot afford to buy the mineral water. The González family owns two dogs one is a 6-year-old golden retriever named Leah and the other is a 2-year-old dash hound named Luna. When it comes to safety in the household my cousin and her husband make sure that all pharmaceuticals, cleaning products, sharps, and hazards are kept away from their daughter in places she cannot reach and

cabinets that are locked, they also utilize gates to block entry to stairs in order to prevent their daughter from accidentally falling down the steps while wondering. The González family does not belong to a specific community club, but they frequently associate with neighbors by lending a helping hand when needed or supplying nutritional goods like sugar or eggs to a neighbor that may need it.

Functional Assessment/ Family Structure

The family structure and functional assessment of the González family is appropriate, both parents respect each other, and engage in healthy communication patterns. During arguments they each rather isolate until they're ready to discuss a problem over engaging in verbal abuse specially in front of their daughter. When it comes to decision making, they rather discuss and weigh the options together as opposed to separate. In Cuba the "traditional" family role structure is still followed by many, which is the belief that men work, and women take care of the household and children. Today in some households the women are now required to also work while taking care of the home and children. In the González household they both equally contribute financially and split household tasks. The González family values healthy growth, respect, religion, education, and working hard to accomplish goals.

My cousin and her husband do meet their daughter's need for affection, love, and understanding, they state "Our joy is to come home and spend time with her, she's growing up so fast it makes us sad but at the same time we're enjoying witnessing all her new milestones". In Cuba the economy is not good, those who have family members outside of the island have a better chance at meeting financial needs. For the Gonzáles family the earnings from work in addition to the help they receive from family (me) here in the states eases the ongoing financial

burden and allows them to provide basic needs for their family. The goal is to eventually have them migrate to the United States.

Health History

For the González family past medical history is not extensive, my cousin has only been hospitalized once for a tibial fracture and her husband has been hospitalized twice in his adolescent years for dengue and cellulitis. Both parents are relatively healthy, the food that they consume on the island is grown organic and free of pesticides aside from the economic conditions and lack of trade range that affects the island. Their daughter is also relatively healthy, she does not suffer from any allergies and has not been hospitalized for any surgical interventions since her birth; she did suffer from a minor cold recently which caused her to become irritable while refusing her food, but she returned to normal once her cold was gone. Regarding nutrition their daughter was breast fed since birth and continues to consume breast milk in addition to puréed meats and vegetables. Extracurricular activities for their daughter involve playing in daycare when both parents are working. She loves to bond with other kids and enjoys learning new things and exploring. She is a very social and charismatic infant who greets strangers with a smile, her mother states “Everyone that approaches her is in awe of her she portrays so much happiness and her smile is very contagious”.

Family Coping Patterns

Living in Cuba is very difficult because of the ongoing governmental crisis. For the the González family short-term stressors are usually family disagreements and dealing with any medical conditions that affect their daughter such as her recent common cold. Long-term stressors are based on the ongoing hardship they face to survive on the island such as constantly having to make long lines in order to buy food, dealing with long workdays that are not

profitable due to low wages, and constantly trying to make ends meet in order to provide for their family. Coping strategies for the González family are distracting themselves and focusing on their daughter’s growth and progress while maintaining a positive attitude. I usually visit the island one to two times per year and when I’m there I make sure that they get to enjoy going to beaches and resorts while indulging in activities they usually wont when I’m not there. Emotionally both parents have suffered periods of depression due to the ongoing situation in the country, their hope is to eventually leave the island and provide their daughter with the life and opportunities that she deserves.

Nursing Care Plan

Nursing Diagnosis: Risk for infection related to environmental exposure.

Expected Outcomes	Interventions	Rationales	Evaluation
Parents will verbalize 3 infection prevention/risk reduction measures within 1 hour of teaching.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure strict compliance to hand hygiene. 2. Educate parents on the adequate way to perform hand hygiene. 3. Provide education about infection control methods. 4. Educate parents on S/S of infection in the newborn. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Handwashing is the most effective way to prevent acquiring and spreading infections. 2. Hand hygiene should be performed for a total of 20 seconds to ensure adequate bacterial decontamination. 3. Methods such as limiting public outings while child is sick and vaccine recommendations help prevent the risk of infection. 4. It is crucial for parents to know the S/S of infection in order to treat the infection promptly and prevent exacerbation which can be life threatening. 	Goal was met, parents were able to verbalize proper hand hygiene. Parents were able to identify fever, irritability, refusing feeding and persistent crying as possible S/S of infection within 1 hour of teaching.

