

The Synergy of Family Nursing Science and Education Redirects Practice to a Family Focus

Family Nursing Research: A Call for Nursing Education to Strengthen the Family Focus

Creating a Family –Focused Curriculum Grounded in the Science of Nursing and Nursing Education

A Transformation to Family-Focused Nursing Practice is Evident in Undergraduate Students

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Goals

- Session Goal
 - Examine nursing science research that offers new directions for faculty to move to a family focus
 - Share teaching-learning practices from our setting based on science of family nursing and nursing education

Objectives

- Describe current family nursing science research findings that offer new directions to move to a family focus.
- Identify processes that could be used in transforming a nursing curriculum to include courses and teaching-learning practices focused on family and society knowledge.
- Examine innovative educational approaches that can be used by faculty to help students gain nursing science knowledge and competencies in family nursing practices.
- Use self-reflection to begin refining nursing education practices to more fully address family nursing science and practice.

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Finding New Pathways

Family Nursing Science Education



Research-Education-Practice



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Illness is a Family Affair

“...Everyone in a family experiences the illness; no one family member ‘has’ cancer, depression...other family members are impacted by and reciprocally influence the illness (Wright & Bell, 2009, ix)”

Family Members and Family Unit



Family Illness Experience



- Suffering
- Uncertainty
- Struggling
- Stress
- Sorrow
- Decision Making Distress

(Bell & Wright, 2010; Eggenberger & Nelms, 2010; McAdam, Fontaine, White, Dracup & Puntillo, 2012; Wacharasin, 2010; Weigand, 2008; Wright & Leahey, 2014)

Family Influences Health

- Families have powerful influence on health, equal to traditional medical risk factors
- Critical and hostile family relationships have negative influence on health
- Supportive family relationships improve outcomes



(Chesla, 2010; Weihs, Fisher, & Baird, 2002)

How do Families Influence Health?



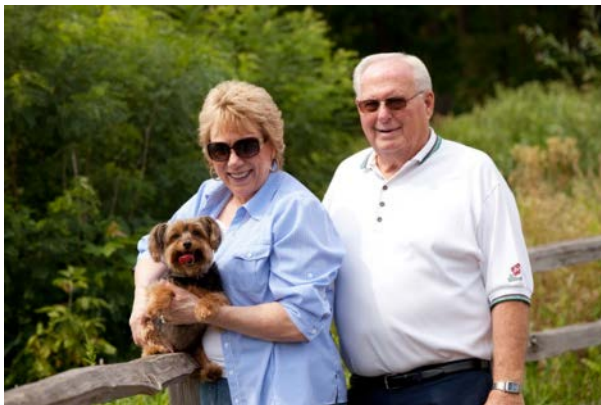
- Direct Biological Pathway
- Health Behavior Pathway
- Psychophysiological Pathway

(Chesla, 2010)



Protective Factors

- Family emotional closeness
- Mutually supportive relationships
- Caregiver skills
- Clear family coordination
- Direct communication



Risk Factors

- Isolation
- Stressors
- Family rigidity
- Family Conflict



(Weihs, Fisher, Baird, 2002; Chesla, 2010)

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Nursing Practice Focused on Family



- Improves family coping
- Impact on individual patient and family outcomes
- Quality of care
- Provides support
- Softens suffering

(Chesla,2010; Holm, Begat, Severinsson, 2009; Vandall Walker, 2012; Davidson, 2009; Knafl & Deatrck, 2014; Saveman, Benzein, Engstrom & Arestedt, 2011; Davidson, 2009; Davidson, Jones & Bienvenu, 2012; Sveinbjarnardottir, Svavarsdottir & Wright, 2013; Wright & Leahey, 2014; Bell & Wright, 2011; Aitking, Schorr, & Keleinpell, 2013; Marshall, Bell & Moules, 2010; Kelo, Eriksson, & Eriksson, 2013)

Evidence: Nurse-Family Interactions



- Increased family collaboration and problem-solving
- Decreased anxiety
- Family coping

(Svavarsdottir, Sigurdardottir, & Trggvadottir, 2014; Gudnadottir & Svavarsdottir, 2014; Konradsdottir & Svavasdottir, 2011)

Evidence: Adult Acute Illness



Nurses are in a Pivotal Position

- Families want nurses to:
 - initiate relationships
 - communicate
 - guide
 - develop trust
 - include and invite families



(Davidson, 2009; Davidson, Jones & Bienvenu, 2012; Duhamel, 2010; Eggenberger & Nelms, 2010; Holm, Begat, Severinsson, 2009; Lyon et al., 2014; Santiago, 2014; Vandall Walker, 2012; Knafel & Deatrck, 2014; Saveman, Benzein, Engstrom & Arestedt, 2011)

Concerns in Nursing Practice

- Troubling nurse-family relationships
- Families report exclusion
- Nurses report a lack of confidence and competence in working with families
- Focus on the individual and technical skills



(Duhamel, 2010; Denham, 2014; Wright & Bell, 2010; Wright & Leahey, 2014 Vandall-Walker & Clark, 2011; Santiago et al., 2014; Eggenberger & Sanders, 2014)

Nursing Education



- Lack of attention to current evidence
- Lack of focus in undergraduate and graduate
- Gap in practicing family nursing skills
- Educators have a responsibility and obligation

(Bell, 2010; Duhamel, 2010; Eggenberger, Krumwiede, & Young, 2015; Nyriati & Denham, 2014; Irinoye, Ogunfowokan, & Olaoun, 2006; Moriyama, 2008; Saveman, 2010)

Community of Teaching Scholars



- A \$7 million endowment from the Glen and Becky Taylor family provides sustained funding for the Institute and creates an unprecedented opportunity for family nursing.
- Mission is to focus on innovative nursing practice knowledge that influences the health and healing of families.



Visiting Scholar Model

(Harvard, 2010)



**Sharon Denham,
DSN, RN**



**Catherine (Kit) Chesla,
DNSc, RN, FAAN**



**Janice Bell,
RN, PhD**



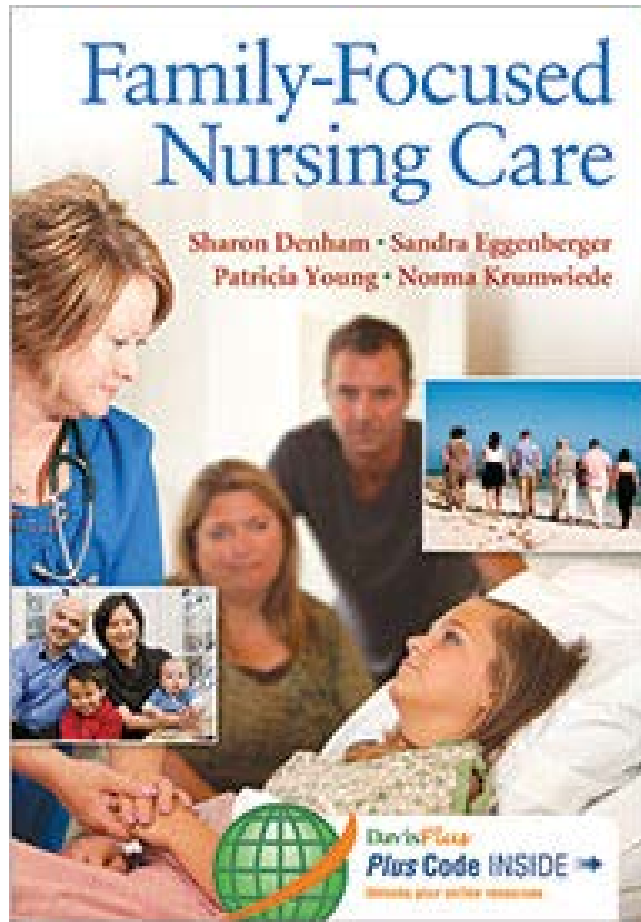
**Lorraine Wright,
RN, PhD**

Teams to Teach and Study Family

- Integrate our teaching and scholarship
- Advance simulation
- Patterns of family nursing practice
- Measurement of family illness concepts



Family-Focused Nursing Care (2016)



- Current evidence
- Innovative approaches to education
- Redirect nursing education
- Transform practice

External Partners



Local Partners



International Family Nursing Association

- **Vision**

- Nurses transforming health for families worldwide.

- **Mission**

- The mission of the International Family Nursing Association (IFNA) is to transform family health by:
 - Serving as a unifying force and voice for family nursing globally;
 - Sharing knowledge, practices, and skills to enhance and nurture family nursing practice; and,
 - Providing family nursing leadership through education, research, scholarship, socialization and collegial exchange on all aspects of family nursing.

Competencies in Family Nursing

<http://internationalfamilynursing.org/2015/07/25/ifna-position-statement-on-generalist-competencies-for-family-nursing-practice-2/>



Family Nursing Education

- Bridge research, education, and practice
- Direct attention
- Ignite the passion



- Opportune moment to address family nursing
(Bell, 2010; Duhamel, 2010; Holtslander, Solar, & Smith, 2013; Wiklund Guslin & Wagner, 2013)

Invitation to Transform Practice



Reflection



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