Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

journal homepage: http://ees.elsevier.com/hsag/default.asp

Full Length Article

Best practice during intrapartum care: A concept analysis

Mary M. Chabeli, Jackie M.L. Malesela, Anna G.W. Nolte*

University of Johannesburg, Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Nursing, Corner Nind & Beit Street, Doornfontein Campus, P.O. Box 524, Auckland Park, Johannesburg 2006, South Africa

ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
Received 18 July 2015
Accepted 20 July 2016

Keywords:
Best practice
Intrapartum care
Concept analysis

ABSTRACT

Rationale: Best practice is an abstract word open to different interpretations. The definition of best practice depends on the context.
Purpose: The purpose is to explore the meaning of the concept of best practice within the context of intrapartum care.
Method: The concept of best practice was analysed using Wilson's method of concept analysis. Dictionaries, a thesaurus, and an internet search were employed. References of journals were used to identify extra sources. Data saturation was reached at 117 definitions and uses of the concept of best practice. The definitions and uses of the concept of best practice listed in column one were read repeatedly. Common and similar patterns of words were highlighted. Grouping of common attributes and connotations occurred in column two and further deductive analysis and synthesis occurred in column three where derived essential attributes of the concept of best practice were categorised.
Results: Three broad categories emerged, namely (1) Values as antecedents of best practice; (2) A three-phased interactive integrative cyclic process of best practice; (phase one: awareness; phase two: need analysis and interactive process; phase three: consolidation); and (3) Desired outcomes of best practice, with resultant theoretical definition of the concept best practice during intra-partum care. Theoretical validity was attained through 117 sources used.
Recommendation: The results of the concept analysis of best practice should be used to develop a model to facilitate best practice during intra-partum care.

Copyright © 2016, The Authors. Publishing services by Elsevier B.V. on behalf of Johannesburg University. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

* *Corresponding author.*
E-mail addresses: marychabeli7@gmail.com (M.M. Chabeli), jackiem@uj.ac.za (J.M.L. Malesela), agwnolte@uj.ac.za (A.G.W. Nolte).
Peer review under responsibility of Johannesburg University.
http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hsag.2016.07.006
1025-9848/Copyright © 2016, The Authors. Publishing services by Elsevier B.V. on behalf of Johannesburg University. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).

1. Introduction and background

The concept of best practice has been in use since the late 19th and the 20th century (Friedman et al., 2007). Best practice is a concept that originates from Taylor's work (1911: 22) on the "one method and one implement that is quicker and better than the rest". Since then a growing body of knowledge has emerged to define best practice and to quantify its value to an organisation. This has become a worldwide language in a post-modern society used by professionals, such as midwives working in the birth units (Axson, 2010).

Literature is devoid of the best practice definition or clarification as a concept within the intrapartum care context hence the need for concept analysis (Katz, Rangel-Eudave, Allen-Leigh, & Lazcano-Ponce, 2008; Williams, 2006).

The analysis of a concept is the first step towards building the foundation of a nursing theory. The outcome of concept analysis is a set of defining characteristics on what counts as a concept. Furthermore, concept analysis allows the researcher to formulate a theoretical and operational definition of the concept under study. In addition, it allows the researcher to develop or choose a measuring instrument that accurately reflects the defining characteristics of a concept measured and to identify the concept when it occurs in a clinical practice (Walker & Avant, 2005).

Duncan, Cloutier, and Bailey (2007) alluded to the existence of various methods of concept analysis such as Walker and Avant (2005) and Wilson (1963). Furthermore Duncan et al. (2007) a assert that even though the existing methods have differences they do have some similarities and use language interchangeably to describe a number of processes such as the steps followed to analyse a concept.

Wilson's method (1963) is regarded as a classical and traditional method of concept analysis. This method of concept analysis has been used by other researchers such as Chabeli and Muller (2004), Thompson (2005) and Matutina (2010), and is therefore selected by the researcher as a method to analyse the concept of best practice.

1.1. *Problem statement*

Several international and national best practice initiatives exist such as WHO/UNFPA/UNICEF and AMDD (2009) and the National Department of Health (2015). Unsafe intrapartum care practices continue to occur despite the availability of best practice initiatives. Having practised as a midwife and currently being a midwifery lecturer, the researcher observed that some of the midwives are still using routine intrapartum care interventions not supported by evidence-based practices. Such interventions are more likely to cause harm to women during childbirth, such as the use of fundal pressure to shorten the second stage of labour and the Valsalva manoeuvre. The need for clarification of the meaning of best practice within the intrapartum care context is a necessary for the midwifery professionals or profession.

1.2. *Research objectives*

The objective of this paper is to explore and elucidate the meaning of best practice and to provide a conceptual framework.

1.3. *Definition of key concepts*

The key concepts identified for the purpose of this article are best practice, intrapartum care and concept analysis. These key concepts are defined below:

1.3.1. *Best practice*

Best practice is defined as a means of systematically building on effective approaches to any given issue by examining existing experiences and processes that work. Understanding such existing experiences and processes in the light of agreed values, expert opinion and best available evidence and extracting from them lessons learnt that can be applied in the context of different social, economic and cultural settings (ILO, 2003).

1.3.2. *Intrapartum care*

Intrapartum care refers to the period from the commencement of true labour throughout the first, second, third and the fourth stage of labour, which last from one to two hours after delivery of placenta (Lowdermilk, Perry, Cashion & Alden, 2012).

1.3.3. *Concept analysis*

Concept analysis "is a process of operationalising a phenomenon so that it can be used for theory development and/or research measurement" (Duncan et al., 2007, p. 295).

2. Research method

Baldwin (2008) explored the concept analysis method as a method of enquiry. Wilson's method (1963), used by the researcher, departs from an ontological ideal that is closer to a naturalistic inquiry epistemology and a relativist context-bound ontology (Duncan et al., 2007).

The researcher used eight out of eleven steps as outlined by Wilson. The omitted steps are numbers five, six and seven because ordinary experiences during the intrapartum period in steps three and four provide sufficient instances to clarify what is and what is not the concept of best practice during intrapartum care (Wilson, 1963). The following steps are described below.

2.1. *Isolating questions of concept*

It is important to isolate the questions of the concept from other concepts before attempting concept analysis. Questions on the concept of best practice that may be asked are what the logical meaning is and what is the nature of best practice during intrapartum care? The questions require factual knowledge on what characterise best practice and its importance and worth during intrapartum care (Wilson, 1963).

Download English Version:

https://daneshyari.com/en/article/5568015

Download Persian Version:

https://daneshyari.com/article/5568015

Daneshyari.com