

Nursing Concept Analysis

Concept analysis is a research method that can be used in many disciplines. Nursing has been a rich source of both conceptual research and studies that utilize [NR 361 Milestone 1](#) analysis (see Takala & Lamsa).

Principle-based concept analysis is based on four broad philosophical principles: epistemological, pragmatic, linguistic and logical. The end result is a theoretical definition.

Definition

In the terminology work and terminology science literature, the method of concept analysis is often a well-known tool. This method is usually described as a process of systematising terms and writing well-formed definitions. It is not always clearly differentiated from other research methods in the general research methodology literature. This type of method seems to be more geared towards terminological applications than the stringent requirements needed for academic research.

However, the concept analysis method is a research approach and should therefore be critically appraised. For this purpose, a quality criteria assessment tool has been developed. This allows researchers to review the concepts of a study against these principles and to assess the [NR 451 Week 3 Healthcare Policy](#) strength of the concept analysis. It is hoped that this will help in improving the consistency and transparency of concept analyses. In addition, it will allow for future updates and comparisons of existing concepts. The tool has been adapted from Waldon's (2018) and Nevin and Smith's (2019) tools.

Purpose

Concept analysis is a formal linguistic exercise that determines critical defining attributes. The aim is to reduce ambiguity within a theory and to propose a precise operational definition which reflects the theoretical base (Schwartz-Barcott & Kim, 1993).

This approach can also be useful in examining a set of related concepts in preparation for research or theory construction. The final product of a concept analysis is an operational definition and a list of antecedents, attributes and outcomes for the selected concept.

Nursing scholars have developed a number of different methods for conducting concept analysis. These include the Walker and Avant method, the utility method and the principle-based concept analysis method. The latter is a process of using scientific sources and systematically [NR 500 Week 5 Area of Interest PowerPoint Presentation](#) them for their relevancy to the four principles. A quality criteria tool has been added to the phased principle-based concept analysis and poses questions that help researchers assess articles for their relevancy to these principles.

Methods

While there are many ways to conduct a concept analysis, the most important step

is gathering research on the topic. This includes finding out who has done what and with what results. It also involves identifying any conceptual ambiguity.

In the internal analysis phase, the researcher examines all uses of the concept and its defining attributes. He or she also constructs a model case, borderline, and related cases. In addition, antecedents and consequences are determined. The final product of the process is a theoretical definition.

Using the concepts of Penrod and Hupcey as guidelines, a new tool has been developed to improve the quality of a concept analysis. This tool combines a principle-based [NR 501 Theoretical Framework to Support Evidence based Practice](#) with current methods of questioning and data extraction to increase the rigour of the methodology. The tool is a valuable resource for researchers and clinical professionals. It has the potential to impact future research and facilitate the development of instruments that capture a clear understanding of a concept.

Results

Despite the growing popularity of concept analysis, it remains underutilised and risks losing its usefulness in nursing research. To address this, this study aims to identify how the application of an explicit search and quality criteria with a phased principle-based approach could enhance its rigour and use.

A scoping review of peer-reviewed literature found a significant growth in concept analyses since the early 1970s. However, the number of studies that used a systematic [NR 500 Week 2 Artistic Expression Caring Concept](#) was relatively low and the preponderance of first authors with master's degrees may limit its use in nursing.

A pilot tool was developed and tested with three researchers. The tool contains two brief questions each on the epistemological, pragmatic and linguistic principles to help researchers assess their articles and is adaptable to future principle-based concept analyses. Its development involved an iterative process with the three researchers meeting online and reviewing a small number of articles at each meeting to enable any queries to be discussed and clarified.

More Info:

[Nursing Concept Analysis](#)