

## Knowledge Production About Nursing Process: Analysis of the Difficulties During the Period From 2003 to 2013\*

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### Abstract

*The research objective was to review existing literature about the nurse's difficulties concerning the nursing process during the period from 2003 to 2013. This is a quantitative, qualitative and descriptive study conducted through literature review. It has been analyzed in this study a total of 23 scientific articles and other bibliographies. The study found that from 2005 to 2013 there were 21 publications concerning the NP. The most frequent difficulties revealed were work overload, involvement with bureaucratic activities, and lack of theoretical knowledge. It is concluded that the difficulties do not change over the years and that there is a significant increase of the difficulties reported by nurses, interfering and paralyzing the systematization of care. It is understood that it is of vital importance to give opportunities to nurses of all institutions skills test about its importance and implementation. It is suggested that nurses receive opportunities to be motivated, both nursing professionals, and researchers to awaken greater interest concerning this subject, in view of research shortage concerning the NP in the Amazonia.*

**Keywords:** Nursing process, Nursing care, Nursing. Diagnoses Nursing, Systematization of nursing care.

### 1. Introduction

The nursing staff is seeking structure and unification of their values and technical terms. But for this to happen is actually required to demystify concepts and professional attitudes such as submissions to other classes. Its own identity must be developed in the field of assistance, requiring the termination of performing procedures with empirical basis without planning and scientific justification.

The Nursing Process (NP) is the largest representation of the scientific method of the profession, being guided by the Systematization of Nursing Assistance (SNC), through which it is developed and organized the team work for which nurses are responsible. The nursing process enables the detection of the priorities of each patient and their needs and thus provides a direction for possible interventions; its implementation develops a humanized care, driving the results, which boost nurses to review their practices by reflecting on ways to make them even better<sup>1,2</sup>.

Within the national context, the beginning of the SNA implementation had more emphasis in some nursing

services in the 1970 and 80<sup>2,3</sup>. At that time, the Theory of Basic Human Needs, Wanda de Aguiar Horta, influenced the application of NP in health institutions and nursing courses. To Horta<sup>4</sup>, the EP it is the dynamics of systematized and inter-related in order to assist the human being, characterized by inter-relationship and dynamism between its stages or steps. This theory was used to implement the steps of SNA, given that this model has been adopted by most nurses and extensively used in the SNA researches and in the Brazilian realities such as Legal requirements<sup>2</sup>.

The Nurses working under various laws, including, Resolution No. 358/2009 signed by COFEN establishing the implementation of systematization in all health care facilities that provide nursing care. However, some studies<sup>5</sup> show that there are different difficulties in its implementation, among them stand out: lack of knowledge on the part of the nurse about the assistance methodology and theoretical models; deficiency in the thematic approach during the undergraduate degree; great demand for bureaucratic and administrative services, and the lack of personnel and material resources

for care; lack of articulation between theory and practice; and influences of the biomedical / Cartesian model.

Those are some of the problems and difficulties commonly reported by nurses and found in literature. Becoming indispensable for discussion and review concerning the difficulties encountered and experienced by nurses about the NP. By making this research relevant, it will allow the nurse who can assume their true role, taking a holistic look together with the client, directing their actions and thinking about their technical and scientific point of view. Given the above its objective was to review existing literature concerning the topic in the period from 2003 to 2013, identifying difficulties that nurses found to perform the NP in the Southern interior of the legal Amazonia.

## 2. Methodology

This is a qualitative quantitative and descriptive study performed by literature review, in order to analyze the literary productions concerning the topic of the difficulties encountered by nurses concerning the NP generated between the years of 2003 to 2013.

This research is an excerpt of the Master's thesis of the Graduate Program in Health Sciences, Medical Assistance to the State Public Servants-IAMSPE / SP, with the topic entitled "nursing process: nurses difficulties from a large hospital in the Amazon / Brazil, regarding the chapter that addresses the historical review of the nurses difficulties . The literature review has as objective to try and explain a problem from theoretical references published in documents, which can be developed out of already developed material, consisting primarily of books, scientific articles, Masters Dissertations and Ph.D. theses <sup>6,7</sup>.

The qualitative research does not seek only to study the phenomenon, but "to understand its individual or collective meaning in people's lives," meaning of its structuring <sup>7</sup>.

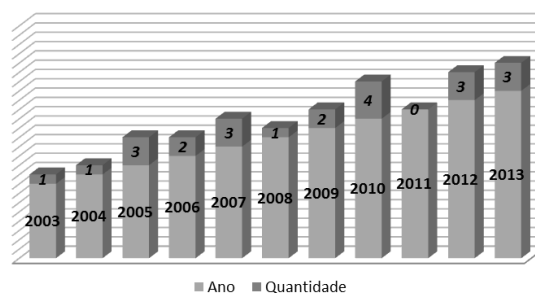
The descriptive study identifies, systematizes and classifies the characteristics of the phenomena. Through this dynamic it is brought to light new descriptive studies that seek to explain these phenomena, or to examine the variables that influence or cause the appearance of its facts <sup>7,8</sup>.

Thus, this type of study aims to provide a better understanding for the researcher on the subject, so that it can formulate more precise problems or create hypotheses that can be researchable by further studies <sup>8</sup>. The data were collected in magazines and journals available on the internet by searching on the basis of indexed data in VHL: Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences (LILACS), Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO), Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online (MEDLINE) and Database of Nursing (BDENF), with the descriptors (Decs): "Systematization of nursing care", "difficulties in the systematization of

nursing care" and "difficulties in the nursing process." In the end we evidenced 39 articles published between the years from 2003 to 2013. Of these, 16 articles were excluded because did not address the needs of this research. Therefore it was analyzed in this study a total of 23 scientific articles and other bibliographies.

## 3. Results and Discussion

Were analyzed 23 scientific articles, between the periods from 2003 to 2013; it revealed that the year that most work was published concerning the subject was in 2010 with four (4) published works. It was observed that between 2005 to 2013, 21 studies have been published about the difficulties concerning SNC. We know that over the year's professionals need to improve their knowledge, entering in a scientific career or even using it to open his intellect new sources and new research. As reported by Tannure<sup>9</sup>, that performing studies aimed at improving knowledge and the implementation of the SNC is timely, because the systematization of nursing care helps to create a universal language for the nursing care and helps identify its effectiveness and to establish a standard of quality. The graphic 01 shows the distribution of items according to the year of publication thereof, with approach to the difficulties of the nurses on the NP.



**Graph 1:** Distribution of scientific articles according to year of publication

According to Cruz<sup>10,11</sup>, nowadays it has increased the global trend to establish the NP, professional practice listed by three fundamental elements: the diagnosis, prescriptions and results of operations. In Brazil, research on nursing activities related to the care system (SAE) are in a phase of great development. To Hermida<sup>12</sup>, nursing as a profession has in the systematization of nursing care the foundation you need for the development of a conscious work, authentic, valuable and rewarding. As for Westphalen & Carraro<sup>13</sup>, assistance grounded in a methodology, seek to understand it and experience it, will make you turn off a few points already learned, freeing concepts, outdated knowledge and practices and that at the time, are not more useful and therefore allow the ligament to knowledge that will enrich the work of the professional. In the illustrated table below we can see the years of publication as well as authors, study type and objectives of this research.

**Table 1:** Distribution of scientific articles by year, author (s), type of study and objective

Year	Author	Type of study	Objective
2003	Mendes MA; Bastos MAR <sup>14</sup> .	Qualitative	Knowing the system of meanings with values and beliefs in nurse's comfort with the new methodological proposal of care.
2004	Foschiera F; Viera CS <sup>15</sup> .	Qualitative descriptive	To verify the knowledge of nurses concerning nursing diagnosis.
2005	Backes DS; Esperança M P Amaro AM; Campos IEF. Cunha AO; Schwartz E <sup>16</sup> .	Qualitative	To report the nurse's perceptions regarding the implementation of the NCS.
2005	Repetto MA; Souza MF <sup>17</sup> .	Descriptive	To identify the realization and recording the stages of systematization of nursing care and indicate the most frequent nursing diagnoses.
2005	Brandalize DL; Kalinowski CE <sup>18</sup> .	qualitative Observational	Portraying a systematic observation, participant, individually on the application of the nursing process by nurses and nursing staff, including proposals for implementation of the diagnostic phase.
2006	Cruz LSDF; Leme PFB; Cruz V. MFR; Filipini SM <sup>19</sup> .	Descriptive/ Quantitative	To identify the problems presented by the nurses of a private institution in São José dos Campos, as the operationalization of Nursing Care
2006	Elizalde AC; Almeida MA <sup>20</sup> .	Descriptive/ Qualitative	To know the perceptions of nurses about the process of implementation of nursing diagnoses in the clinical Hospital from Porto Alegre.
2007	Barbosa PMK; Pirolo SM Fernandes C; Silva MH; Pinto RL <sup>21</sup> .	Descriptive/ Qualitative	To analyze the nurse practice concerning the Systematization of Nursing Care in individuals admitted to the Intensive Care Unit, using the language of NANDA diagnoses.
2007	Vargas RS; França FC V <sup>22</sup> .	Case study/ Quantitative	To describe the systematization of nursing care to a patient with liver cirrhosis and report the difficulties encountered by implementing this assistance.
2007	França FCV; Kawaguchi IAL Silva EP; Abrão GA; Uemura H. Alfonso IM; Carvalho EO <sup>23</sup> .	Descriptive	To describe the implementation of the Nursing Diagnosis in the Intensive Care Unit, report the theoretical and practical learning of nurses about the diagnosis and identify the complications that interfered in its implementation.
2008	Takahashi AA; Barros ALBL; Michel JLM; Souza MF <sup>24</sup> .	Descriptive/ qualitative	To identify the difficulties and easiness mentioned by nurses of the Hospital São Paulo in the implementation of the phases of the nursing process.
2009	Felix NN; Rodrigues CDS; Oliveira VDC <sup>25</sup> .	Descriptive/ Quantitative	Raise the difficulties encountered by nurses in performing the systematization of nursing care in the emergency care unit.
2009	Castilho NC; Ribeiro PC; Chirelli MQ <sup>26</sup> .	Bibliographic research / Descriptive	To analyze how it has occurred the implementation of the NCS in hospital health service in Brazil from 1986 to 2005.
2010	Silva AF; Oliveira JS <sup>27</sup> .	Bibliographic research / Descriptive	To search the literature concerning the matter the main challenges encountered in the operation of the nursing process.
2010	Anjos KF; Santos VC; Almeida OS; Simão AAG <sup>28</sup> .	Bibliographic research / Descriptive	Discuss the importance of computerized implementation of the NAS as proposed in the evolution of care.
2010	Neves RS; Shimizu HE <sup>29</sup> .	Quantitative	Review the implementation of the steps of the Systematization of Nursing Assistance.
2010	Luiz FF; Mello SM; Neves ET. Ribeiro AC; Tronco CS <sup>30</sup> .	Descriptive/ quantitative	To identify the facilities and difficulties of implementation of the Systematization of Nursing Assistance, the perception of the nursing staff of a teaching hospital in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.
2011	-----	-----	-----
2012	Maria MA; Quadros FAA; Grassi MFO <sup>31</sup> .	Descriptive/ Qualitative	Analyze the feasibility of NCS deployment in emergency care and hospital emergency.
2012	Moreira RAN; Pereira LDB. Siqueira AHOB; Barros LM. Frota NM; Luna IT <sup>32</sup> .	Qualitative	Identify the difficulties and contributions of the systematization of nursing care in a neonatal unit in the eyes of nurses.
2012	Adamy EK; Tosatti M <sup>33</sup> .	Descriptive/ Qualitative	Evaluate the implementation of systematization of the nursing care in the perioperative period in a Hospital do Oeste from Santa Catarina under the vision of the nursing team.
2013	Silva VS; Filho ESB; Queiroz S. MB; Abreu RNDC <sup>34</sup> .	Descriptive/ Qualitative	To investigate the importance attributed to the use of the nursing process by nurses and identify the main difficulties encountered.
2013	Medeiros AL; Santos SR; Cabral RWL <sup>35</sup> .	Descriptive/ Qualitative	To understand the factors that complicates the operation of the NCS in an obstetric service.
2013	Tavares TS; Castro AS; Figueiredo ARF; Reis CD <sup>36</sup> .	Case Study/ Quantitative	To evaluate the NCS implementation process in a pediatric unit of a university hospital.

Font: authors (2015)

**Table 2** Distribution of the main difficulties encountered according to year of publication.

Difficulties	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Lack of Human Resources			X		X		X	X		X	X
Work overload		X	X		X		X	X		X	X
Lack of Time	X		X				X	X		X	X
Involvement in Bureaucratic activities	X	X	X		X			X		X	X
Lack of preparation					X					X	
Lack of Theoretical Knowledge				X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Lack of Standardized Instrument	X				X		X	X		X	X
Difficulties in performing the steps of the NCS			X	X		X		X		X	
Lack of Practical Knowledge					X	X		X			
Lack of interest among managers	X			X			X	X		X	X

Font: authors (2015)

We can observe that even though it had different objectives all intertwine as they seek to break up the difficulties encountered by nurses in the implementation and realization of the systematization of nursing care.

As reported by Paans<sup>37</sup>, nursing has been seeking knowledge and creating new service alternatives, developing its own working methods, based on the scientific method that is, based on the nursing process (NP). However in this quest for care autonomy are found some difficulties that make obstacles for its implementation and execution. It was evidenced that the main difficulties encountered in the analyzed literature that interfere with the realization or implementation of Nursing Care Systematization are: Work overload; involvement with bureaucratic activities; lack of theoretical knowledge; lack of human resources; lack of time; lack of standardized instrument; lack of interest among managers; difficulties in carrying out the steps of the NCS; lack of practical knowledge and lack of nurse preparation to perform tasks. These difficulties are exemplified in the table 2.

By analyzing table we can observe that the difficulties and most work problems described were work overload, involvement with bureaucratic and lack of theoretical knowledge and secondly we observed the lack of human resources, reports about the lack of time to perform the NP, lack of standardized instrument, lack of interest among managers and lack of theoretical knowledge, it was mentioned less frequently reports of lack of practical knowledge and lack of preparation of the professional nurses to perform and implement the NP at their place of service.

According to Guimarães<sup>38</sup>, there are several factors that have hindered the implementation and evaluation of NP which is an exclusive activity of the nurse, such as: work overload, not enough staffing and professional lack of preparation. In addition to factors inherent in the management process. Neves & Shimizu<sup>39</sup> also reported that the nursing professionals justify not using NCS for reasons ranging from lack of skill in the implementation to work overload.

To Kobayashil & Leite<sup>40</sup>, barriers exist regarding the human resource management competency; the rapid changes in production environments, the speed of technological change generate imbalances between skills and work. Regarding these reserchers<sup>41</sup> the difficulties for the implementation and realization of the NCS are directly related to institutional and personal problems. By referring to the institutional issues, we see the need for the involvement of the teams and the political will to achieve NCS deployment goal. As observed to the concern which the difficulties encountered by nurses in the realization and implementation of the NP in this period of literature review which comprises a decade it is evidenced that there are many difficulties, and they go through the years and never cease.

We can relate these difficulties to managers and nurses themselves who do not see the extreme importance that the NP has over their profession and the importance and difference it makes to the patient who is well attended. The nurse who fails to perform the systematization because is involved with bureaucratic activities for lack of time by not having a standardized instrument is ruining their own profession; however the NP is by nature and responsibility of the professional nurse.

#### 4. Final Considerations

The nursing process is a exclusive activity of the nurse who uses this scientific method to identify situations of patients health and disease and plan the care actions, helping to promote, prevention, recovery and rehabilitation. This is extremely important for nurses to acquire the autonomy of care ceasing to be subservient to other classes. However there are some difficulties and problems that prevent the NP from occurring continuously and systematically. As made clear before that in almost every year of the publications were mentioned problems such as lack of human resources, which leads to another problem that is the work overload which can be explained by the lack of interest among

managers in valuing, encouraging and implementing the systematization of nursing care.

It is concluded that one of the difficulties that were found is the lack of theoretical and practical knowledge to perform the assistance, then it is suggested that nursing colleges could facilitate and encourage the teaching and learning about the NP, giving a focus on the real importance of the systematization of care in the professional career, given the lack of research on the topic in the Amazon region. Perhaps by doing so, in the near future there won't be difficulties such as lack of preparation, lack of theoretical and practical knowledge, as reported in several articles reviewed.

The present study allowed us to identify and analyze the difficulties found by nurses in the realization and implementation of the Systematization of Nursing Care between the periods from 2003 to 2013. It became evident that difficulties do not change over the years and that there is a significant increase in difficulties reported by nurses. These difficulties are often interfering and paralyzing the systematization of care. It is understood that it is vitally important to give nurses from all institutions the opportunity for training on the importance and application of it. Having also a greater managers assistance both supporting the implementation and in the provision of human resources to provide adequate assistance to customers. Thereby creating a professional who has knowledge based on scientific evidence, to perform their actions with safety to the patient and not merely a mechanicist professional.

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