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ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО

INDEXED

*Nursing care
Nursing process*

MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME IN NURSING/MIDWIFERY
IN EUROPE

Report on a Seminar on Nursing Research

Stavanger
2-6 June 1980



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1. Introduction

A seminar on nursing research with particular reference to the multinational study to be conducted as a part of the medium-term programme in nursing/midwifery in Europe was convened in Stavanger, Norway, from 2 to 6 June 1980 by the WHO Regional Office for Europe in collaboration with the Government of Norway. The group comprised 29 temporary advisers from 15 countries, together with 2 members of the Regional Office staff. Mrs I. Haugen acted as Chairman, Miss S. Schotols as Vice-Chairman and members of the WHO Secretariat as joint Rapporteurs. A list of participants is attached as Annex I.

The seminar was organized with the following objectives in mind:

1. To present and discuss information on:
 - (a) assessment of the needs of patients/clients for nursing care;
 - (b) identification of the priority needs of patients/clients for nursing care;
 - (c) establishment of objectives of nursing care and ways of relating them to patient/client outcomes;
 - (d) recording of the nursing process, including the outcomes of care;
 - (e) collection and management of data in relation to the multinational study;
 - (f) determination of the reliability and validity of a research tool.
2. To provide an opportunity for a further exchange of information related specifically to the management of the research element in the medium-term programme in nursing/midwifery in Europe, and for group work which would result in the production of guidelines for the development of the protocols, schedules and teaching material needed in the multinational study.

The meeting was opened by Dr D.C. Hall on behalf of Dr Leo A. Kaprio, WHO Regional Director for Europe. The opening placed emphasis on the need for research into nursing, particularly as this relates to identification of the needs of populations for nursing care and the outcomes of the interventions made by nursing personnel to meet these needs. Miss A.-L. Andersen, Personal Secretary to the Minister for Social Affairs of Norway, welcomed the group on behalf of the Ministry, referring to the importance of nursing research and the need for nurses to come together to exchange ideas.

The seminar was organized to provide both for separate meetings of programme managers of WHO collaborating centres and the Secretariat and for joint sessions of the entire group. One-and-a-half days were devoted to the discussions among the programme managers and the Secretariat and the remainder of the five days of the seminar to plenary or small group sessions attended by all participants. The body of the report is therefore organized under the following headings: meeting of programme managers, and seminar on nursing research.

A copy of the seminar programme is attached as Annex I.

2. Meeting of programme managers

The major topic for discussion was the draft design for the multinational study of nursing interventions in selected patient/client situations and the comments of an independent review committee regarding this design. Dr P. Proffit acted as resource person at the discussions and her comments, along with those provided by the committee, were taken into consideration by the group in providing guidelines for the revision and completion of the document. It was agreed that, as far as possible, the suggestions of the committee should be incorporated into the design.

Areas in the design which raised questions and led to most discussion were the following:

- organization of the content
- the need to extend the reference base of the study to include more references from a wider group of countries in the WHO European Region, particularly those in Eastern Europe
- the statement of the research problem, which the group agreed needed strengthening and enlargement
- the addition of statements related to the conceptual framework and the significance and limitations of the study, which it was agreed should appear as separate items in the proposal. Mandate was given to the subcommittee on protocols and schedules, which was to meet in the Regional Office immediately following the seminar, to finalize the research proposal.

The group recognized the need for the development of time targets for undertaking the major activities of design/proposal preparation and research instrument development, preparation of the teaching package, staff development, data collection and analysis, etc. The fact that the study was a pioneer effort which it was hoped would lay the foundation for continuing research in nursing, on both a national and multinational level, was emphasized. That it was also an exercise in the possible was evident. This meant that all the actions in and around the study would need not only to take into consideration good research practices but also the state of development of nursing education and services in the countries involved in the study.

3. Seminar on nursing research

The seminar was organized to examine in some depth areas of content having particular relevance to the multinational study to be conducted as part of the medium-term programme in nursing/midwifery in Europe, to which the participants were introduced in detail by Dr D.C. Hall. Discussions in the areas listed below were introduced by selected programme managers and Dr P. Proffit:

- assessment of patient/client needs for nursing care (Dr M. Lorensen)
- identification of priority needs for nursing care (Miss P. Ashworth)
- setting of objectives for nursing interventions and relating these to outcomes (Miss E. Farmer)
- design of a study with emphasis on ensuring validity and reliability of research instruments (Dr P. Proffit)
- data collection, management and interpretation (Dr P. Proffit)
- writing of a research report (Dr P. Proffit)

Dr Å. Lindgren set the stage for the discussions with a lecture on research in health services in Europe. He emphasized the fact that it is logical for the bulk of such research to take place in the academic setting. With this fact in mind, it was pointed out by the group that if countries consider nursing research to be important to the development of better health services they should give prompt attention to the establishment of nursing as an accepted discipline in universities and institutes of higher education in Europe, and to the preparation of nurses in these settings. The discussion which ensued also placed emphasis on the need for a clearer understanding of concepts of health as contrasted with the disease-oriented approach which now dominates the provision of most health services. The need for nursing to see itself as a discipline related as much to health as to illness was emphasized. This underlined further the need for nursing personnel to be prepared to provide care in the community as well as in institutions caring for the sick. It was recognized that while an understanding of the foregoing is developing in most countries of Europe, little has been done to date to shift either education or employment patterns so that nursing personnel could practise outside the hospital and provide care related to health as well as illness.

The role of nursing in the provision of primary health care as it is now envisaged by many countries in the European Region is extensive and if this role is to be fulfilled, prompt action has to be taken in both the education and employment of nursing personnel. The group expressed concern at the continuing practice of educating first-level nursing personnel in apprenticeship, hospital-based, theory-divorced programmes established outside the university and/or institutes of higher education. Nurses prepared in these settings are largely unequipped to deal with present or future problems either in health services in general or in nursing services in particular. They are totally unequipped to deal with nursing research and this means that the development of the discipline is either neglected or carried out on a piecemeal basis by workers from other fields who do not provide nursing care as a primary activity in the services which they give to people.

The role of the medium-term programme in acting as a catalyst in the countries of the Region, stimulating interest and action in applying the concepts and practices related to the nursing process, was a continuing theme in the comments of participants. The development of networks of collaborating and participating centres was discussed and the fact that these networks now exist in the majority of the countries was commented on as an encouraging development in the progress of nursing in the Region.

It was obvious from the discussions that the growth of knowledge in nursing and the use of this knowledge by nurses to improve both the practice of nursing and the education of nursing personnel has moved forward extensively over the past 5-10 years. Interest in the nursing process and the concepts and methods related to it was of prime importance to the large majority of participants. Acceptance of the fact that nursing should become a research-based discipline was also considerably more in evidence than in many similar meetings in the past. The questions that were now being raised were not "Why research?" but "How and in what areas of nursing?"

Annex I

PROGRAMME

Monday, 2 JuneMeeting of programme managers

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| 09.00-10.30 | Presentation and finalization of the study design |
| 11.00-12.30 | Discussion of the nursing process, focusing on the development of a group approach to major activities involved in the care provided using the process method; finalization of the community ward profile document |
| 13.30-14.30 | Continuation of above |
| 15.00-16.30 | Continuation of above |

Tuesday, 3 JuneAll participants

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|-------------|---|
| 08.30-09.00 | Registration |
| 09.00-09.30 | Opening session |
| 09.30-10.30 | Research in health services in Europe - Dr Å. Lindgren |
| 11.00-11.30 | The research element in the medium-term programme in nursing/midwifery in Europe - Dr D.C. Hall |
| 11.30-12.30 | Discussion |
| 13.30-14.00 | Assessment of patient/client needs for nursing care - Dr M. Lorensen |
| 14.00-14.30 | Discussion |
| 15.00-17.00 | Ensuring validity and reliability of research instruments - Dr P. Proffit and Dr Å. Lindgren |

Wednesday, 4 June

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|-------------|--|
| 09.00-09.30 | Identification of the priority needs of patients/clients for nursing care - Miss P. Ashworth |
| 09.30-10.30 | Group work related to the assessment of patient/client needs for nursing care and the identification of priority needs |
| 11.00-12.30 | Continuation of group work |
| 13.30-14.30 | Reports from groups followed by discussion |
| 15.00-15.30 | Setting objectives for nursing interventions and relating these to outcomes - Miss E. Farmer |
| 15.30-16.00 | Discussion |

Thursday, 5 June

- 09.00-10.30 Data collection and management: lecture - Dr P. Proffit and Dr A. Lindgren
- 11.00-12.30 Presentation of information followed by discussion on protocols and schedules directly related to the study to be conducted in the medium-term programme in nursing/midwifery in Europe - Miss M. Sorvettula
- 13.30-15.00 Group work related to setting objectives, planning for care, provision of care and evaluation of outcomes
- 15.30-16.30 Reports from groups followed by discussion

Friday, 6 June

- 09.00-10.00 Interpretation of data and writing of report - Dr P. Proffit
Discussion
- 10.00-10.30 Conclusion of seminar
- Programme managers only
- 11.00-12.30 Preparation of guidelines for working groups on protocols and schedules and the teaching package

Annex II

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

TEMPORARY ADVISERS

- Miss P. Ashworth
Programme Manager in the United Kingdom (Manchester) for the Medium-Term Programme in Nursing/Midwifery in Europe, Department of Nursing, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
- Mrs Å. Bierring¹
Nurse Research Assistant, Danish Nurses' Organization, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Mrs A. Brink
Chief Nursing Officer, City Health Office, Helsinki, Finland
- Miss G. Déchanoz
Programme Manager in France for the Medium-Term Programme in Nursing/Midwifery in Europe, Lyons, France
- Miss N. Delmottel
Staff Member of the Nursing Service, St Raphaël's University Hospital, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium
- Mrs E. Egebakken¹
Deputy Director, Nursing Division, Health Services of Norway, Oslo, Norway
- Miss E. Farmer
Research Associate, Nursing Research Unit, Edinburgh University, United Kingdom
- Miss J. Gorsjek
Assistant Lecturer, Department of Clinical Nursing and Rehabilitation, Medical Academy, Lublin, Poland
- Miss E. Hastings
Area Nursing Officer, Lanarkshire Health Board, Hamilton, United Kingdom
- Mrs I. Haugen¹
Director of the Nursing Division, Health Services of Norway, Oslo, Norway (Chairman)
- Mrs K. Jozwik Jewsiejczyk
Chief Nurse, Clinical Hospital No. 4, Lublin, Poland
- Matron L. Katscher
Diaconal College of Nursing, Berlin (West)
- Mrs C. Konrad
Director, Provincial College of Nursing, Kiel, Federal Republic of Germany
- Miss E. Kristiansen
University Lecturer (Amanuensis), Department of Nursing Research and Advanced Nursing Education, University of Bergen, Norway
- Dr Å. Lindgren
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- Dr Margarethe Lorensen
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- Miss H. van Maanen
Programme Manager in the Netherlands for the Medium-Term Programme in Nursing/Midwifery in Europe, National Hospital Institute, Utrecht, Netherlands

¹ Participation expenses not paid by WHO

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Manchester, United Kingdom
- Miss L.-A. Paillard
Programme Manager in Switzerland for the Medium-Term Programme in Nursing/Midwifery in Europe,
Geneva, Switzerland
- Mr J. Parsbyl¹
Executive Secretary, Danish Nurses' Organization, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Dr Penny Proffit
Associate Professor, School of Nursing, Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., USA
- Mrs M. Quivey
Instructor, Advanced School of Nursing, Oslo, Norway
- Mrs G. Rönér Douhanl¹
Nurse Instructor, University Hospital, Uppsala, Sweden
- Miss S. Schotola
Nursing Research Officer, Regional Health Authority for the Province of Styria, Graz, Austria
(Vice-Chairman)
- Mrs M. Slajmer-Japelj
University Teacher, University of Maribor, Yugoslavia
- Miss M. Sorvettula
Programme Manager in Finland for the Medium-Term Programme in Nursing/Midwifery in Europe,
National Board of Health, Helsinki, Finland
- Mrs O. Strand Rangnes
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- Mrs A.-B. Tunsetl¹
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- Mrs D. Vitova
Research Worker, Institute for Social Medicine and Organization of Health Services, Prague,
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¹ Participation expenses not paid by WHO