A Workshop on Development of Research Program in Response to Strategic Plan of National Research

The main objective of this workshop was to enhance our faculty members' knowledge, skills and teamwork in developing a research program to compete for national research funds. This workshop was divided into two parts. The first part was held on December 15, 2014 and the second part would be continued on March 16, 2015 at Faculty of Nursing, Salaya. The trainers of the workshop were Associate Professor Dr. Uthaitip Jiawiwatkul from Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities and Dr. Athiwat Jiawiwatkul from National Institute for Child and Family Development, Mahidol University. Participants were composed of 52 faculty members from all seven departments.

In the morning session of December 15, 2014, Associate Professor Dr. Uthaitip Jiawiwatkul shared her experiences in how to develop and write a good research program in order to create value, scientific merit, feasibility, and success to the project. In addition, she also gave guidelines for what actions researchers should do and should not do to enhance their opportunity to get funded. Later, Dr. Athiwat Jiawiwatkul also presented his research programs as an example.

In the afternoon session, the trainees worked collaboratively in small group discussion. They were asked to select principle investigator of the research program; formulate primary and secondary research questions and determine conceptual framework, design, scope, timing, and budget of the research program. Finally, nine research programs were proposed as follows:

1. Breast feeding
2. Child care centers in modern urban society
3. Health promoting school for children and youths
4. Palliative care in children
5. Palliative care in adults
6. Fall in the elderly
7. Patient safety and quality of care
8. Development of client-centered nursing model
9. Non-communicable diseases and mental health problem

Workshops on Developing a Research Program and Writing a Manuscript for International Publication

During September 22, – October 10, 2014, it was with great pleasure for Faculty of Nursing, Mahidol University to welcome Associate Professor Dr. Alicia K. Matthews from College of Nursing, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA to serve as a guest speaker of the 2-week research workshops. The workshops she conducted were as follows

1. A workshop on “Developing a Research Program and Manuscript Writing Consultation” was provided during September 25-29, and October 2-8, 2014 at Faculty of Nursing, Salaya and Bangkoknoi campus. In this workshop, Dr. Alicia gave lectures regarding research program development such as “Developing a program of research in nursing”, “Critical appraisal of qualitative and quantitative research”, “Synthesis of research findings”, and “Mixed method research”. Participants were asked to actively share their ideas and research experiences. In addition, she also offered individual consultation for manuscript writing for publication to our faculty members and doctoral students. Each participant was asked to submit a draft of manuscript for review before an appointment with Dr. Alicia to receive her feedback and suggestion for revision.

2. A one-day workshop on “Writing a Manuscript for International Publication” was provided on Tuesday September 30, 2014 at Faculty of Nursing, Salaya, Room 202: 9.00 am-3.00 pm.

There were approximately 20 doctoral-prepared faculty members joined these workshops with the participant’s evaluation after the workshops as good- excellent levels. These workshops provided valuable opportunity for our nurse researchers to be equipped with updated knowledge and skills in research program development, and in sharing research experiences with a renowned international researcher. This can help strengthen the capabilities of our nurse researchers to become a research expert and more productive both in quantity and quality of international research publications in the future.

Summarized by Associate Professor Dr. Kanaungnit Pongthavornkamol
Lesson learned from the article--- “Evidence-Based Research Ethics and Determinations of “Engagement in Research”

In the IRB-NS journal club part I, the article titled “Evidence-based research ethics and determinations of “engagement in research” has been discussed on how IRBs deal with the issue of what constitutes “engagement in research” in cases where staff members from clinical research studies (parent studies) take steps to help recruit individuals (actual/potential participants of the parent studies) to enroll in the ethics research by giving participants’ name/contact information (with permission) to the ethics research staff.

From the IRB-NS journal club discussion, two issues concerning how IRBs consider an ethics research protocol were 1) IRB review requirement and 2) subject recruitment. Regarding the issue of IRB review requirement, it was agreed that the ethics research protocol must be submitted and reviewed by an IRB, since it certainly involves human subjects. The IRB-NS determined the parent studies as “engaging in the ethics research”, since their staff members will take steps to introduce the ethics research to the parent studies’ participants and pass along their information to the ethics research staff. Investigators of the parent studies, therefore, are required to submit and received the site’s IRB approval of protocol amendments.

The second issue concerning recruitment of subjects. The members of the IRB-NS determined that the staff members of the parent studies should offer the ethics researcher’s name and contact information to the actual/potential participants of the parent study, instead of giving their information to the ethics researcher. This practice would allow full autonomous decisions of the individuals, which complies with the principle of human subjects protection- “respect for person”.

Lastly, the IRB-NS members expressed their belief in the necessity of conducting empirical research in research ethics in order to gain more knowledge on ethical issues in research, especially in nursing research. The obtained knowledge is crucial to the practice of human subjects protection and to policies used to oversee of human subjects research.

Summarized by Wanphawanataporn, RN, PhD, IRB-NS Committee
Supinda Ruangjiratanan, RN, PhD, IRB-NS Committee
Porntsi Sritussadaporn, M.Ed Educational Research (IRB-NS Chairperson)
ABSTRACT

Purpose: To study the participatory processes of the parties involved in the development of child care center and analyze the factors that affect to participant of the community with the development of child care center under the local government.

Methods: Qualitative study was used in this study. Key informants were 30 participants, including the personnel of municipality and health personnel in child care center of two municipalities’ district. Data were collected using in-depth interviews, focus group and data documentation. Content analysis was used to analyze the data.

Main findings: The results indicated that: 1) to provide a meaning of participation in development of child care centers, all network parties recognized that participation is important and there are a variety of characteristics, including joint planning, joint services support and budget support; 2) role of participants in the operation of child care center including; municipal executive officer defined the vision, strategic plan and support funding, department of education designed learning courses and lesson plans and health personnel provided health care service for children; and 3) the participatory processes involved in the development child care center consist of co-knowing, co-designing and cooperating and applied the concepts of intellectual and cultural capital as tools for developing learning outcomes for the children.

Conclusion and recommendations: The conditions supporting the child care center’s development participation including, childhood is the most important phase for overall of development throughout the lifespan, developing toward master learning center for child care center in the area and having a clear public policy support.

Keywords: participation of local communities, child care center

Source: Journal of Nursing and Health Care 2014;32(2):181-189

ABSTRACT

Purpose: The purpose of this cross-sectional correlational research was to examine how burden, social support, sense of belonging, problem-focused coping, and emotion-focused coping influenced psychological distress in family caregivers of people with a major depressive disorder.

Methods: The conceptual model was built on Lazarus and Folkman’s theory of stress and coping, and related literature. Multistage sampling was employed to recruit 204 family caregivers of people with a major depressive disorder. The caregivers were asked to complete 6 questionnaires including the Involvement Evaluation Questionnaire, Social Support Questionnaire, Sense of Belonging Instrument, Ways of Coping Questionnaire, General Health Questionnaire-12, and General Information Questionnaire. Structural equation modeling was used to examine a hypothesized model.

Main findings: The results revealed that the hypothesized model fitted the empirical data and 64% of the variance of psychological distress was explained. Burden had the strongest positive direct effect on psychological distress and an indirect effect on psychological distress through emotion-focused coping. Social support had an indirect effect on psychological distress through emotion-focused coping, Sense of belonging had a negative direct effect on psychological distress.

Conclusion and recommendations: Findings indicated that the Causal Model of Psychological Distress of Thai Family Caregivers of People with Major Depressive Disorder provides a guideline for understanding psychological distress of these family caregivers caring for people with a major depressive disorder. Mental health care providers, including nurses, should help to relieve burden, strengthen the sense of belonging, and promote appropriate coping strategies in order to decrease psychological distress of such family caregivers.

Key words: caregiver burden, social support, sense of belonging, coping, psychological distress

Assistant Professor Piyatida Nakagasien was awarded a master degree of arts in medical anthropology (cultural studies in health) from Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University in 1990. Her master thesis focused on image of doctors at Ban Phaero hospital. She also received a PhD in nursing from the Faculty of Nursing, Khon Kaen University in 2007. During her doctoral study, she had precious opportunity to be a visiting scholar under the research exchange program of the Higher Education Commission scholarship to pursue her work and have site visits at the Faculty of Nursing, Shizuoka University, Japan, for six months and site visits at the Vientiane School of Nursing, Lao People's Democratic Republic. Her doctoral dissertation was focused on the development of data set for health care services for persons with diabetes in a community socio-cultural context.

In 2010, Dr. Piyatida has joined research teams in the development of healthy sub-project in central area, and she also became an academic of Thai Health Promotion Foundation (Department of the support community health). Nowadays, ‘health systems’ in the broad sense does not focus merely at health as the absence of diseases and infirmity; instead it means ‘a well-being system that is interrelated in all dimensions - physical, mental, social, and spiritual - holistically in balance’. Enhancing the well-being of individuals and societies requires various strategies. One of them is mainstreaming health into public policies which required meaningful and active participation of stakeholders at all levels. The participatory approach will make public policies efficient, transparent and responsive, or in another word – leading to ‘Healthy Public Policies’ (HPP).

Dr. Piyatida's most outstanding contribution to nursing and health service system is a research and development and her current studies are among the development of healthy public policy in the rural area. This year, Dr. Piyatida received a grant from the National Health Commission Office of Thailand for sharing and learning program of the healthy public policy process in the sub-districts. This project involves corporation driven participatory healthy public policy leading to concrete outcomes in sub-districts, central area of Thailand.

Publications: (relevant to the development of health service systems and healthy public policy)


In the 4th issue of the 2014 Nursing Research Newsletter, you will find highlights of a workshop on development of research program in response to strategic plan of national research, which was held on December 15, 2014 at Faculty of Nursing, Mahidol University, Salaya, and two workshops on developing a research program and writing a manuscript for international publications, which were conducted by Associate Professor Dr. Alicia K. Matthews from College of Nursing, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA during September 22, – October 10, 2014. We also congratulated our faculty members who obtained research grants from Mahidol University and external sources of funding.

A summary of IRB Journal Club on “Evidence-Based Research Ethics and Determinations of “Engagement in Research” Part II” is presented. Issues of what constitute “engagement in research” were discussed, particularly how IRBs consider an ethics research protocol: IRB review requirement and subject recruitment.

This issue also provides two research abstracts on a causal model of psychological distress of Thai family caregivers of people with major depressive disorder, and participation of local communities with capacity building toward a master learning center for child care center in the central and western areas of Thailand. We are pleased to introduce a faculty member from Department of Public Health Nursing, Assistant Professor Dr. Piyatida Nakagasien. Her research interest focused on the development of healthy public policy in the rural area.

I appreciate the efforts of our editorial team who contributes to this issue and makes it possible. We hope that the Nursing Research Newsletter presents update information about the research activities and research-related professional development opportunities.

Sincerely Yours,

Wanlaya Thampanichawat, RN, PhD

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