P1-25: Identifying Attributes of Nursing Clinical Credibility

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Presentation Preference: Student poster submission

Abstract Categories:
Research Interest Groups (RIGs): Administration
Research Interest Groups (RIGs): Qualitative

Abstract:
Introduction: Nursing clinical credibility, a complex, abstract concept is rarely mentioned in the clinical setting, but is implicitly understood by nurses and physicians. The concept has neither been defined nor explored, despite its repeated use in literature. The purpose of this descriptive qualitative research study was to explore and identify attributes of the concept of nursing clinical credibility pertinent to direct care nurses, identified by registered nurses and physicians in the hospital setting.

Method(s): Approval for the study was secured through the IRBs of the university and the teaching hospital where the study was conducted. Data collection consisted primarily of field work and group interviews, with subsequent individual interviews for clarification. Purposive sampling was used to recruit 39 study participants: 32 registered nurses and seven physicians. A semi-structured interview guide was used in discipline-specific sessions to minimize the effects of power gradient and social class differences between disciplines, and to encourage the subtle
discipline-specific nuances to emerge through the discussion. Sessions were recorded, transcribed, and verified for accuracy. Data was analyzed using constant comparison throughout data collection, after which the data was coded and analyzed for thematic patterns. Following the separate analysis of each discipline, the two data sets were compared for similarities and differences.

**Results:** Three domains emerged that were consistent for both physicians and nurses: trustworthiness, expertise, and caring. However, the two disciplines differed in categories and emphases within the domains. Both disciplines focused on the attributes of trustworthiness and caring, although physicians and nurses differed on components of expertise.

**Discussion & Conclusions:** Further research is indicated to develop a taxonomy of nursing clinical credibility in which components and subgroups of the attributes are detailed. Taxonomic analysis will enable nurse researchers to develop an instrument to measure nursing clinical credibility from the taxonomy.

**Abstract History:**
This abstract has not been presented or accepted for presentation in whole or in part at the SNRS or other scientific meeting.

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