Week 3: Summary and Planning Ahead

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Summary

Concepts provide the foundation for theory development. Concept analysis is a structured process used to gain insights and new perspectives, to define or clarify a concept for mutual understanding, to provide meaning to a nursing theory, and to provide a framework for application of a concept to practice.

Concept is a powerful tool that assist in providing clarity for our nursing practice. As stated by Melnyk and Fineout-Overholt (2011) and McEwen and Willis (2014), concept is one of the vehicles used to demonstrate to others key components of our profession. Although a concept analysis may appear cumbersome to use at times, the ultimate goal is a shared language among nurses.

Key Points

* Concepts are essential to theory development
* Using the process of concept analysis allows for new understanding of application of theory

Planning Ahead

Next week, plan time for discussion responses and readings.