



KNOWLEDGE FOR HUMANITY

DECLARATION BY GRANADA ABOUT THE KNOWLEDGE ON NURSING

The knowledge regarding nursing comes from the legacy that nursing, as a science that is directed towards the care of the people, is giving to the good of humanity. It is the result of centuries of accumulated experiences by nurses, while being caregivers in all of the places and ambiances where there is human presence, which is synthesized by the richness of their thoughts and investigative processes.

However, there is an alarming tendency to dismiss the knowledge created by nurses, minimizing their social function and their capabilities of producing direct benefits in the everyday world. Sometimes it is the healthcare systems that relegate the duties of a nurse to positions of lower classes; other times it is the politics of managing knowledge, instrumented by hegemonic sectors of science, which exclude applied knowledge and the media, interrupting or alternating the natural processes of production, dissemination, and intake.

To improve the current situation a group of clinical nurses, academics, managers, researchers, and editors come together for a reunion in the city of Granada (Spain) on November 16, 2012 in the *Foro I+E (Foro Internacional sobre Investigación y Educación Superior en Enfermería)*. Derived from the same group known as DEGRA, this stands for *Declaración de Granada sobre el Conocimiento Enfermero*, who collects the recommendations that we invite to subscribe from a personal and institutional plane.

We consider that the knowledge on nursing

- Is by nature solidary, a good for humanity, essential in order to give responses to the necessities of the people and to improve the quality of life of the general public.
- Is derived from an applied science, nursing's principal characteristic is the proximity to the reality of people who are healthy and sick, which is why it is created in the laboratory of life, through intersubjective experiences before the processes of health-sickness-health.

- Is primarily run by research nurses and academics, which transform the formal vocabulary generated through clinical practices and reflect it into valid universal knowledge.
- Is conveyed in a natural way through scientific journals for nurses and through areas of related knowledge in places where nurses publish their work.

In general we commit to

- Defend the natural processes of generating the knowledge of nursing and its enhancement so that it can be transferred to professional practice in the shortest amount of time possible.
- Promote the auto-recognition of nursing as its own producer of knowledge, through this manner defying the professional identity and combating the uncritical assimilation of knowledge imported from other disciplines and other contexts.
- Work so that knowledge in general and that knowledge of nursing in particular is freely accessible, favoring its availability as much for professional as for the general public.
- Pacifically oppose those practices that use the knowledge on nursing as an object of economic or curricular marketing, diverting the real end towards that which is generated.

For those reasons we recommend

[To the nurses, the professional and scientific societies, and to the agents of knowledge]

- Adopt ethical and responsible practices in the processes of investigation, orienting them to satisfy the health necessities of the general public, complying with the social purposes that correspond to them.
- Consider the potential of the people to produce valid knowledge, respecting and incorporating to the nursing vocabulary, cultural understanding, and enhancing caregiver skills in the people and in families.
- Develop strategies of cooperation, promoting the existence of communities of open knowledge where resources can be shared and information be exchanged.
- Divulge research findings in valid media, that is accessible to nurse and the scientific community in general, independent of language or territory.

[To the Health Institutions]

- Independent of the scientific resources that you make available to professionals, guarantee nurses access to their own sources of disciplinary knowledge, since these provide the best scientific evidence to base clinical decisions on and to favor their professional growth.
- Establish as institutional priority the training and the research done on behalf of professionals in nursing, generating resources for this, favoring cooperative work and creativity, with an assumption that the results of the research in nursing can help improve the quality of care.
- Promote exchange and dialogue between generations so that the experience can be placed at the service of the enthusiasm and creativity of the younger generations.

[To the Educational Institutions]

- Guarantee that nursing students are trained by competent nurses, especially in the specific areas of the discipline, independent of participation by other professionals in other subjects complimentary to the curriculum.
- Raise the education of nurses, from the diverse forms of thinking and methodologies that concur in an applied discipline such as nursing, without exclusion and resistance that limits the competency field of nurses.
- Ensure access for nurses to programs of higher education, which are specific and specialized, that contribute to their academic and professional development, favoring the consolidation of nursing as a science.
- Build a research culture within the training areas, so that nurses are empowered to in their own processes of generating and managing knowledge.

[To the Institutions of Evaluation]

- Generate contextualized and inclusive systems of evaluation that value, in its just measure, the social engagement of nursing knowledge, avoiding penalizing it depending on the mechanism and they use for broadcasting, or the cultural context in which it develops.
- Ensure that nurses are evaluated by competent nurses and not by other professionals, avoiding the use of management systems of knowledge that structurally exclude nurses.

- Ensure that nursing knowledge is evaluated based on the criteria of an applied science, which considers its social, clinical, and scientific impact through qualitative assessments consistent with the dominant values in the profession.

- Particularly, avoid the exclusive use of measures such as Factor Impact of magazines to determine the value of the publications or of the contributions of the authors or research groups, especially when you settle the provision or consolidation of academic space or of research funds. It is recommended to use measures that allow for the evaluation of the activity and scientific impact of the authors directly and individually, and the development of indicators that allow us to approximate the social impact of nursing knowledge.

- Include among your priorities lines of investigation directed towards the care of the people and the promotion of health among communities, and not only combating illnesses.

[To the Editors]

- Professionalize to the max the editorial processes, putting criteria of quality and relevance in the selection of work, ensuring transparency and respecting the standards of scientific ethic.

- Commit to defending nursing knowledge, making it possible to promote it, so that it is visible through the databases and reaches the readers in the shortest amount of time.

- Promote the acceptance of good practices in the editorial processes, stimulating authorship responsibility, originality of contributions, and neatness in the communication of scientific nursing.

- Establish agreements with institutions and professional and academic bodies to ensure free access to publications, favoring the housing of published materials in institutional repositories and other forms of broadcasting that is possible.

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