The Diffusion of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Methods and Data Analytics into an Undergraduate Nursing Research Course

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Title: The Diffusion of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Methods and Data Analytics into an Undergraduate Nursing Research Course

Abstract: The project is the adoption of principles of Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning and Data Analytics into a traditional nursing research (hypothesis testing) course. Necessitated by the recent entrance of “Big Data” use in health care, there is an urgent need to inject an understanding of the AI/ML techniques necessary to extract, organize and derive meaning from this huge amount of evidence in clinical decision-making. In fact, our department recently approved the adoption of Precision Health (PH) (the clinical use of the plethora of highly-individualized data in health & medical decisions) principles into six undergraduate courses, NURS 4222 (Nursing Research & Evidence-Based Practice) being one of them. The conversion to semesters affords a great opportunity to truly transform the course by blending in this additional necessary content that the graduate nurse is expected to apply. Faculty who are preparing to teach new matters related to “precise care” should avail themselves of gray literature searching, professional networking and incubation to replace, or at least supplement, traditional sources and sourcing such as texts and scholarly literature. These sources were applied creatively in this sample module entitled “Big Data & Evidence-Based Practice”. It is anticipated that our students, by extension and through sharing, our faculty, will develop the knowledge, skill and attitude (KSAs) desirable to adapt to this scientific renaissance known as Precision Health.

Program Outcome (new): Apply the nursing process to provide ethical, patient-centered, holistic, culturally sensitive, and precise care, health promotion, and disease and injury prevention to individuals, families, communities, and populations across the lifespan, including care of acute and chronic health conditions and during public health disasters.

Course Layout, One Module: Big Data & Evidence-Based Practice
Using Personally-Generated Health Data (PGHD) & The Electronic Health Record as Exemplar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/Objectives</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1, Session 1:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Describe the status of PGHD relative to the EHR</td>
<td>Symptom Science, Precision Health, the flawed assumption of homogeneity in traditional science*, Data Granularity</td>
<td>Lecture/Discussion Pre-test</td>
<td>Critique of apps for seniors, or population of choice e.g., Nimble</td>
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<td>2. Critique the clinical usefulness of selected health apps</td>
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<td>Executive Summary: Caring for the Individual Patient (NAM, 2018)</td>
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<td>3. Describe heterogeneous treatment effects in one’s own terms</td>
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<td>4. Describe what is mean by individual vs aggregate level data in a context of Precision Health</td>
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</table>

*Note: The asterisk (*) indicates that this assumption is flawed in traditional science.
**CLO:** Describe the relationship of nursing theory, research, evidence-based practice, and quality improvement, and data analytics.

### Week 1, Session 2:
1. Articulate an understanding of algorithms, nursing care processes & robotics
2. Describe the “five Vs” of health care data which contributes to outcomes
3. Describe components & advantages of EHRs
4. Describe what is meant by standardized terminology in the EHR

### Week 2, Session 1:
1. Describe the relationship between AI/ML data & EBP
2. Imagine “the hospital of the future” from the patient data point of view
3. IoT, IoMt, devices & Precision Medicine/Health
4. Articulate limitations of CDS within the EHR

### Week 2, Session 2:
1. Describe the hope, the hype, the promise & the peril of AI in nursing science
2. List findings of select governmental & private reports and/or initiatives (NAM Report on AI)
3. The NIH *All of Us* Initiative
4. ANA Healthy Nurse, Healthy Nation (HNHN)

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**CLO:** Demonstrate information literacy skills for retrieval, organization, levelling and evaluation of evidence.
Abbreviated Resource List


NACNR Overview of NINR Symptom Science and Precision Health Portfolio, May, 2019. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSPF3v5dWRA.


Course Learning Outcomes:
1. Describe the relationship of nursing theory, research, evidence-based practice, and quality improvement, and data analytics.
2. Compare and contrast the roles of baccalaureate-prepared, master’s-prepared, and doctorally-prepared nurses in research and evidence-based practice.
3. Describe the research process (traditional & data analytical approaches) from development of the research question through dissemination of findings.
4. Discuss common research designs, both quantitative and qualitative, sampling, measurement, data collection, and data analysis methods.
5. Discuss ethical principles and legal/regulatory requirements pertinent to research, especially with human subjects.
6. Demonstrate ability to critique individual qualitative and quantitative research reports.
7. Demonstrate information literacy skills for retrieval, organization, levelling and evaluation of evidence.
8. Describe the evidence-based practice process from development of the clinical question through appraisal of evidence and implications for practice change.
9. Demonstrate beginning competence in the EBP process from clinical question formation through judging implications of a body of evidence for practice change.

Topical Course Outline

Quantitative research
- Philosophical perspectives
- Common methods elements/components including research questions, hypotheses, independent and dependent variables, sampling, data collection, measurement, and data analysis approaches: descriptive, correlational, quasi-experimental, and experimental
- Sample size, sampling, and power analysis, other aspects of adequacy
- Measurement theory and application
- Statistical tests appropriate for selected research questions/designs
- Reliability and validity of quantitative research
- Elements of a critique of a quantitative research report

Evidence-Based Practice (EBP)
- EBP as a professional imperative
- Relationship between EBP and quality improvement
- Importance of translational research and outcomes research to EBP
- EBP process, including formulation of the clinical question, literature search, critical review/appraisal of evidence, decision re: strength of evidence for practice change
Types of Hierarchy of evidence within traditional science (hypothesis-testing) models: expert opinion, case reports, practice guidelines, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, meta-syntheses, RCTs

Strategies for conducting a literature search

Tools for appraising a body of evidence, including a table of evidence

Challenges and barriers to implementation of evidence-based practice changes, implementation science models

Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML), Precision Health & the Internet of Medical Things (IoMT)

The roles and functions of Data Engineer, Data Scientist, Subject Matter Expert and others on the AI/ML/Precision Health team

Differentiation of the AI/ML functions of data extraction, data manipulation, data analysis in information and knowledge generation across the health care research enterprise

The revolutionary and disruptive nature of the entrance of Big Data and AI into health care in an historical context--relationship to demand for care that is precise

Data Science and Data Analytics tools/methods e.g. neural networks, ArcGIS, neurocomputing, pattern recognition, data mining, natural language processing (NLP) and Data Viz

Data impact from social media analytics, semantic analytics, sentiment analysis and PGHD (personally-generated health data) upon health and wellness

Ethical and legal considerations in the use of Big Data, e.g. best practices in data governance and data provenance, user protections of health data and breach prevention

**Usha Menon PhD RN FAAN Definition of Precision Health (NINR video)**

“In precision health, we’re not just talking genetics and genetic testing and their influence with regards to a patient’s risk for developing diseases and how a patient responds to medications—we’re also considering where a patient works and lives, what they eat, their hobbies and how they play, their culture, and how these social determinants affect their health risks and health goals”.

**Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, Health Care, Nursing, Precision Health