



First IFNA International Collaboration Workgroup Conference Call Meeting

6 November 2014—11:00am EST/4:00pm UTC

Evan Dyce and Sonja Meiers Highlighting

Sonja Meiers Additional Highlighting

Members Present:

Li-Chi Chiang, Sharron Close, Sandra Eggenberger, Suzanne Feetham, Sueli Galera, Birte Ostergaard, Hanne Konradsen, Lorraine Holtslander, Norma Krumwiede, Kathleen Mussato, Veronica Swallow, Marcelo Medeiros, Sonja Meiers, Petra Brysiewicz, Anne Geard

Minutes:

Dr. Sonja Meier opens the meeting with a welcome and informs group she is the convener of this task group. She notes that questions were previously sent out to group in the meeting announcement. Informs group of absent members who sent their regrets regarding inability to attend (listed in PowerPoint). Thanks Barbara and Debbie for administrative support.

She then asks for introductions:

Introductions (Please share one of your current family research projects at this time.) (20 minutes)

Li-Chi Chiang: Informs group she is from Taiwan and is a professor at the National Defense Medical Center. Research focus includes pediatric asthma (how parents manage chronic disease of child), developing nursing interventions such as family empowerment via website and Ipad. She also supervises masters and PhD students in critical care.

Sharron Close: Introduces self as an Associate Professor at Emory University in Georgia, USA. Research focuses include research in children with chronic illness of genetic origin, specifically boys and families dealing with sex chromosome disorder Klinefelter syndrome—How this affects child and family. Other interests include family management and parental mental health, and telehealth access.

Evan Dyce: DNP, Family Nurse Practitioner student working with Sonja Meiers as research assistant, will be taking minutes for meeting.

Sandra Eggenberger: Professor and Director at Glen Taylor Institute for Family and Society Nursing in Mankato, MN, USA. Focus on supporting and guiding faculty in family health and nursing practice. Research focus includes testing educational intervention in critical care setting with nurses to identify effective methods for helping nurses deliver competent family nursing in the ICU.

Suzanne Feetham: Nursing research consultant for Children's National Health System Washington D.C. Research includes identifying strengths and looking at family functioning as well as family decision making in children with health problems. Mentions ongoing work on Feetham Family Functioning Survey.

Sueli Galera: Professor of nursing at the University of Sao Paulo in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Research focus includes research on mental health, specifically in evaluation of efficacy of nursing intervention with families and patients during first psychotic episode.

Birte Ostergaard: From Denmark. Member of Board of IFNA. President of Danish Family Nursing Association, which was established in 2013. Current research includes involvement in a randomized trial looking at family intervention in heart failure patients (n=468), currently now have 369. She is also a PhD supervisor for several students.

Hanne Konradsen: Board member of IFNA and involved in Danish Family Nursing Association. Also, research manager at hospital in Denmark. Mentions at beginning of creating Nordic Family Nursing collaboration.

Lorraine Holtlander: Associate professor at University of Saskatchewan in Saskatchewan, Canada. Research includes focus on family caregivers and interventions to support bereaved family members in end of life situations. Also teaches family nursing and qualitative methods.

Norma Krumwiede: Professor at Minnesota State University, Mankato in Mankato, MN, USA. Research focus includes development of tool for use in families with chronic illness. Also working with nursing students looking at caring strategies families use to address chronic illness. Also looking at measuring impact of using simulation in teaching family nursing to undergraduate students.

Kathleen Mussato: Nurse scientist at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin in Wisconsin, USA. Works with children and families of children with heart disease, looking at family adaptation in children with chronic disease. Including how family factors influence child developmental and behaviors.

Veronica Swallow: Senior lecturer at University of Manchester in England. Research focus includes impact of chronic illness on children and families and how to learn to manage these conditions. Developing and evaluating multidisciplinary interventions such as web application for parents. Also teaches undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students.

Marcelo Medeiros: Professor at Federal University of Goias College of Nursing in Goias, Brazil. Research and expertise in family nursing, focus on domestic violence, violence against women by partner or against children.

After introductions, Sonja Meiers opens floor to suggestions for questions for the meeting in addition to those sent in meeting announcement. None noted.

1. What are the family nursing research strengths within your country? (10 minutes)

- Birte Ostergaard discusses strengths in Denmark include starting The Danish Family Nursing Association and research group there and beginning to develop research connections within family nursing in Denmark.
- Li-Chi Chiang mentions in Taiwan strengths include research into pediatric and maternal health and mental health, as well as conducting of qualitative studies to understand family phenomena and transitions. Recently scholars have developed family functional instruments (although a high degree of variation exists between instruments). Demand for family nursing interventions and instruments of measurement is high. Research is ongoing looking at family nursing interventions and the effect on family dynamics, cohesion, and function. Integration of family nursing theories in adapting practice is ongoing.
- Li-Chi Chiang says in Chat: In Taiwan, we tried to develop various family intervention for client transition from health to illness
- Sharron Close mentions in Chat: Many communities in the US are open to participating in health care research especially led by nurses. Of course, depends on region. We also have many evaluation instruments validated with US parents/families.
- Suzanne Feetham discusses the building science of family management from theory and measurement (agrees with inconsistency in measurement of family functioning). Mentions progress on design and analysis of research on dyadic family.
- Kathleen Mussato discusses one strength in USA is great number of nursing science leaders in family research who serve as mentors to new family nurse researchers (mentions Susan Feetham and others as mentors).
- Lorraine Holtslander says in Chat: Yes, in Canada there is a great interest in supporting families and family caregivers, but studying families as a whole is a challenge! Measurement tools and methods would be greatly appreciated.
- Sandra Eggenberger discusses a strength in USA involves partnerships related to academic and practice centers (were clinical practice and academia merge).

2. What are the family nursing research needs within your country? (10 minutes)

- Sharron Close speaks about **need for continued work on developing measurement tools and ongoing conversation about family functioning.**

- Veronica Swallow discusses a need for an international definition for family nursing.
- Birte Ostergaard says in Denmark there is a need to share instruments for measuring family interventions. There is a great challenge in finding good measures.
- Lorraine Holtslander concurs that there is difficulty in knowing if research is effective due to difficulty in measures.
- Petra Brysiewicz mentions that in Africa there is a lack of definition of family nursing. Discusses family nursing as a thread that runs through everything, doesn't see family nursing as standing alone). Mentions that there is a great need for research in Africa because it is a highly multicultural and low resource environment. Concurs with need for research in measuring interventions.

3. What are the family health strengths within your country? (10 minutes)

- Suzanne Feetham indicates recent increased attention to patient or family centered care in US, improved access to care with Affordable Care Act, but notes a continued lack of equity and integration of family in health care.
- Discussion here quickly merged into strengths and needs, more focus on needs.

4. What are the family health needs within your country? (10 minutes)

- Sonja Meiers mentions in US, family health needs around violence, both domestic and within larger community and how that influences family. This brings up related aspect of mental health needs of our society and issue of health care access.
- Marcelo Medeiros concurs that in Brazil there is a need to look at violence, not only against women or children but against elderly and anyone who lives in same house since homes in Brazil may include more than just nuclear family.
- Birte Ostergaard (Denmark) discusses there is a general problem in addressing family needs because we are not used to doing family nursing research. Family wants to be involved in knowledge and care of loved ones; increasingly, more families are speaking up about this preference.
- Petra Brysiewicz mentions Africa has different needs in terms of health as family is directly involved in taking care of loved ones in a practical way due to lack of healthcare professionals (even if patient is in hospital). Family has very important role in providing healthcare.
- Sharron Close mentions that in the USA there is a difficulty for families in finding

medical home, many resort to acute care instead of continuity of care. Mentions that in USA there is increase opportunities for families but there are also barriers to care.

- Sueli Galera comments that in Brazil it is important to produce evidence of the impact of family intervention and facilitate the application of this knowledge in clinical practice of nurses.
- Victoria Swallow discusses shifting focus from family as a unit to looking at the members as people (separation of parents to look at individual contribution).
- Li-Chi discusses that in Taiwan nurses have a good focus on patient centered care but have difficulty making care family centered and have difficulty conducting family interview, assessment, and interventions. Discusses need to educate nurses and nursing students
- Lorraine Holtlander comments in Chat: In Canada we need to provide better care for people with chronic illnesses, especially for our aging population who wish to remain at home in their own communities

5. What would you like to focus on for International Family Nursing Association Research Collaborations? (10 minutes)

- Sonja Meiers summarizes general discussion of themes, seems there is interest in work on measure development and testing, interest in area of family management and how this influences outcomes, also some interest in telehealth as resource for families and students.
- Hanne Konradsen mentions interest focusing on different cultural aspects of family and family nursing, important because most countries are becoming more multicultural. Mentions there are differing perceptions of what a family even is.
- Li-Chi Chiang says in Chat: I suggested to develop the International Family Function Scale universally, to incorporate the most major concepts in it. Such like the WHO QOL, International Physical Activity Questionnaire (IPAQ)...etc. She also mentions need to define internationally what is family nursing and what is family functioning
- Suzanne Feetham says she will send Sonja Meiers a definition she did for a family encyclopedia so this can be distributed.
- Anne Geard mentions in Chat: I would like us to Exploring family resilience in the face of severe injury (Stroke, SCI, TBI)

6. What can facilitate our work together? (10 minutes)

- Susan Feetham suggests compiling of discussion in today's meeting and doing an early content analysis to cluster themes then sending this out for response, feedback, and prioritization.
- Victoria Swallow agrees, proposes this may be a Modified Delphi Technique

- Sonja Meiers suggests creating repository for current work (suggests using Dropbox), opens floor to comments on this. Other agree this would be an effective way of sharing information.
- Birte Ostergaard asks if there are any security problems concerning use of Dropbox. No security problems brought up. Others mention that they have used email and services like Google drive for work in the past.
- Petra Brysiewicz suggests creating a document with tentative dates moving forward to help with planning and scheduling.

7. What will be barriers to our work together? (10 minutes)

- Sonja Meiers notes that we must be mindful of time zones and asks for suggestions for future meeting times. It is suggested a table is put together to assist with visualizing time zones for various countries (Evan Dyce to complete).
- Victoria Swallow discussed possible barrier in developing grant applications that some funding opportunities are not available for international research.
- Marcelo Medeiros mentions that **social and economical differences exist between different countries, which creates differences among families** (need to keep this in mind for doing research).
- Petra Brysiewicz mentions that some research might not be appropriate in some settings due to cultural differences.

Could we create an abstract of our group's work for the IFNA Conference in 2014 based on our discussion today? (10 minutes)

- There is general approval of submitting of abstract, no objections noted.
- Lorraine Holstlander comments in Chat: an abstract with the common themes, concerns, and gaps globally would be really interesting.
- Could be based on notes from today's work
- Suzanne Feetham suggests that there may be a need for space to be reserved during IFNA meeting to continue this discussion
- Sonja Meiers mentions that she did request time for this discussion to be sent to conference planners.
- Sonja Meiers will create an abstract and cycle this to members of this conversation for review and comment
- Next there is discussion of how often this group should meet, there is comment that once a month may be too frequent. Suggestions are made for quarterly or every other month meetings with email contact between and the use of Doodle surveys to facilitate future meetings.
- Sonja Meiers asks if Thursday meetings work, others agree they do.
- Suzanne Feetham suggests moving meeting time up a few hours to help with colleagues in later time zones.

- Sonja Meiers asks if any further discussion
 - Sandra Eggenberger mentions a need to continue to work on ways to test and evaluate educational interventions for practicing nurses—translating most current knowledge to practicing nurses in addition to advancing knowledge.
- Sonja Meiers wraps up the meeting by thanking everyone involved. Notes that abstract submission deadline is November 24th for the 12th International Family Nursing Conference: Denmark 2015.