

A stylized graphic of a globe, showing the outlines of continents in light blue and oceans in dark blue. The globe is centered behind the text.

# **Strengthening Support for Families Worldwide:**

**Potential Directions for an International  
Collaboration in Family Nursing Research**



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# IFNA Research Committee Charge

- **IFNA Research Committee, International Collaboration Subcommittee Goals:**
- To foster international family nursing research collaborations
  - Testing of family measures across studies
  - Incubator projects
  - International studies





# Background

- Who: Family researchers in the IFNA Research Committee, International Research Collaboration Subcommittee
- Why: Convened to determine mechanisms and directions for future collaborative projects to strengthen support for families
- When: Initial meeting November 2014



# Theoretical Purpose and Methods

## Purpose

- To report salient themes of research priorities for future collaborative projects

## Methods

- A modified policy Delphi (Beretta, 1996; Crisp, Pelletier, Duffield, Adams, Nagy, 1997; deVries, Walton, Nelson, & Knox, 2015; Mitchell, 1998) technique was used to measure the judgments of international family nurse researchers in assessing research priorities.





14 Countries across 5 Continents



# Sample

- **Participants were:**

- IFNA members who responded to an IFNA Research Committee survey in 2013
- Indicated interest in joining a subgroup to establish international research collaborations (n=32).
- The resultant sample size at the November synchronous conference call meeting was 14 (from 8 countries across 5 continents). Identities of the researchers were known, thus making this process a modified Delphi technique (deVries et al., 2015).



# Procedures

## **Preparation**

- Subcommittee convener emailed Discussion Questions prior to the meeting; these same questions guided the meeting.

## **Data Collection**

- Attendees were informed that meeting minutes were being recorded for the purpose of dissemination.



# Discussion Questions

- What are the family nursing research strengths and needs within your country?
- What are the family health strengths and needs within your country?
- What would you like to focus on for International Family Nursing Association Research Collaborations?
- What can facilitate or encourage our work together?
- What will be barriers to our work together?



# Data Analysis

- Minutes circulated to all attendees for correction (first round).
- Convener and graduate assistant read the corrected minutes separately
- Determined the salient themes by consensus
- Salient themes emailed to the Subcommittee for confirmation and ranking of importance (second round)
- Importance of all themes with subthemes confirmed by second round respondents (n = 20); ranking of importance of themes completed



# Results

- Ranked importance of themes to direct the work of the Subcommittee as follows:
- 1. Defining family nursing
- 2. Developing family nursing knowledge (e.g. family management)
- 3. Developing measures for use in family nursing research (e.g. family functioning)
- 4. Determining international influences on family health and family needs
- 5. Translation of family nursing knowledge to practice





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# Discussion: Progress to Date

- Six Subcommittee Conference Calls
- Defining Family Video Project (DFP)
  - Permission for video use for education purposes obtained
- Defining Family Nursing (DFN) Survey
  - Survey contents developed by subcommittee
  - IRB approval by Winona State University
  - Administered online to all IFNA Research Committee Members (n=116)
  - Quantitative analysis (sample description) and review by subcommittee conference calls during subcommittee meeting
  - Qualitative content analysis (Graneheim & Lundman, 2004) collaboratively( electronically and through subcommittee conference calls)



# Defining Family Video Project Themes

- N = 6 families from Japan, USA, Australia, Denmark
- Themes:
  - Family composition
  - Togetherness (sub themes: eating, holiday (vacation) time, visiting)
  - Love each other
  - Support each other
  - Depend on each other
  - Respect each other



# Defining Family Nursing Survey (n=42; 36% response rate)

<b>Years practicing nursing n(%)</b>	>25 years n=36(62%)	<b>Formal family nursing education (pre- licensure)</b>	Yes: n=14(33%)
<b>Highest Level of Education</b>	Masters or Doctorate n=42 (100%)	<b>Formal family nursing education (graduate)</b>	Yes: n=24(57%)
<b>Countries Represented</b>	15=USA 5=Brazil 3=Denmark 2=Australia,Canada, Portugal, Taiwan, UK	1=Croatia,Japan, Norway, South Africa, South Korea, Estonia, Switzerland, Turkey, Thailand	
<b>Involve families in nursing care in country?</b>	Yes=28(67%) No=2(5%) Sometimes=12(29%)	<b>If yes, are families involved in all areas of country?</b>	Yes: n=13(36%) No: n=8(22%) Some areas: n=15(42%)



# Preliminary Analysis of “How do nurses involve families in care in your country?”

Themes	Related Subthemes
Occurs along a continuum,	Allowing, Including, Involving, Engaging, and Partnering
Depends upon multiple factors,	Setting, Patient Situations, Family and Patient Wishes
	Nurse’s Perceptions of Power and Control, Knowledge, Beliefs, Understandings of Families and Health Experience, , Family Definition Held by the Nurse (or within the cultural context)
	Focus on the Patient in Context of Family (to a greater extent than the family as client or family as partner)



# Themes and Subthemes (Continued)

Themes	Related Subthemes
Offers comfort, compassion, education/guidance, and support	
May be practiced without a nursing model, theory, or framework perspective	
Is practiced more on tradition than research evidence	
Is practiced with purpose and intention	
Is evolving internationally	
<b>Domains of how nurses involve families in care:</b>	Nursing activities involve families:
	Educator, Counselor, Coach within Decision-Making Counselor, Trainer for Families Learning Caregiving Knowledge and Activities, Discussion Leader, Nurse Researcher



# Discussion: Anticipated future

- Literature search on the following key terms: family management, family functioning, and family health
- Cross-continent development/adaptation of measures for use in family nursing research
- Discover IFNA avenues for making defining DFP video(s) available to members only for educational use
- Research priorities
  - Fully analyze data from Defining Family Nursing (DFN) survey



# Conclusion

- Limitations:
  - Select sample of nurse researchers in DFN study
  - Non-random sampling in DFP
  - Time zone differences and country calendars challenge participation and analysis
- Potential strategic directions were determined and can guide the subcommittee and IFNA to inform collaborative work from an international perspective.
- Invitation: All active IFNA members are invited to be part of the Collaboration.
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# Questions?

