TDC and Evolving Nursing Practice

A primer to improve nurses’ health information technology, data and creativity literacy for the enhancement and evolution of nursing practice and creating what’s next in nursing.
By bringing together healthcare technology, data, and creativity (TDC), nurses invent what’s next and evolve the ways of healing people. Technology used every day in nursing practice generates data and information, and adding innovation concepts helps provide better evidence-based care.

This introduction shows you how the synergy of nursing plus TDC impacts evidence-based practice change within your setting, whether clinical or supportive, and how embracing and collectively using them improves the care experience for patients and nurses.
Countless technological advances making healthcare delivery safer, higher quality and more powerful have flooded the healthcare marketplace over the last few decades. The discovery of super-technologies has led to nurses to practice in more sophisticated ways – with a focus to impact care safety and quality, enable ease of use and the ability to share information across care systems. As the largest population of clinicians, nurses are the single leading technology users in clinical settings. You are bound to adopting and using technology in your workspaces, in every environment, every day.

To further influence the use of healthcare technology, and reap the maximum benefits of it, nurses must understand that data generates information in practice with every care encounter. Healthcare has moved beyond adopting the electronic health record (EHR) and its vast capabilities to enable better execution of the nursing process and automate clinical decision making. Using data to paint a clear clinical picture and share critical information gives you the power to harness multiple data sources, beyond the EHR. You apply the knowledge gained to see the big picture in practice and adopt and create new, more advanced care strategies.

In all environments, nurses are inventing new, innovative technologies that improve evidence-based patient care. The use of technology and data influence innovations, with the ultimate product being improved health and experience of people and populations. You have innate ability to see what is not working in your setting and create systems and tools for better patient outcomes and your practice experience. Inventions are serendipitous or intentional, and creativity can come naturally or be learned. Either way, fresh and exciting work designs and nurse-driven innovations will impact safe, quality and efficient care.
Collaborating with TDC

Nurses are committed to working collectively throughout the patient journey to provide quality, evidence-based care for improved outcomes. Health information technology allows nurses to collaborate more efficiently, share timely patient data and information and create plans of care for a better patient experience in and between all care settings. Disparate clinical and support departments and specialties can become more connected through interoperability and expert use of TDC.

The use of health innovations also impacts your nurse experience. Opportunities for creation arise from the identification of improvements needed in and between care environments. The power of TDC encourages inventing new and better systems, policies, tools and processes that will improve workplaces as patients move through the care continuum. Using data analytics and cultivating inventiveness among care teams will ultimately improve patient safety, engagement and care transitions into the community and in all settings where you provide nursing care.

All clinical environments, nursing specialties, and support roles benefit from harnessing the power of TDC to develop new ways of caring, including:

- Inpatient Care
- Outpatient Care
- Surgical Care
- Maternal and Infant Care
- Transitional Care
- Home Healthcare
- Palliative and Hospice Care
- Cancer Care
- Renal Care
- Public Health
- Rural Healthcare
- Alternative Medicine
- Infection Prevention
- Quality Improvement
- Clinical Informatics
The Power of TDC

Technology improves the care you provide through

- Sharing of patient information between different hospitals
- Firing alerts and prompts in the EHR specific to patient conditions
- Enabling communication with patients virtually, outside the hospital or clinic
- Encouraging information transfer via secure messaging within a care team
- Making you more efficient, productive and able to spend extra time with patients

You can use data to make a difference in care delivery by

- Using vital sign and test results and documentation to see the whole patient
- Identifying which patients are getting sicker and why
- Monitoring performance of core measure indicators for quality improvement
- Tailoring patient interventions and planning by using predictive risk scores
- Developing research in your environment to enhance care planning and interventions

Creativity strategies that can evolve your practice include

- Identifying a needed practice change that will improve outcomes, care delivery, and experience
- Expressing new ideas in your setting to other nurses and nursing leadership
- Getting other nurses on board, putting the change into practice and sustaining it
- Learning innovation concepts to get your ideas noticed and adopted
- Educating nurse colleagues and encouraging creativity in your work environment
Nursing + TDC Resources

Excellent resources for nurses who want to learn more about healthcare information tech, data and creativity are plentiful. Here is a selection of links to some of the best, industry-leading organizations, websites, papers and events that will further TDC literacy and keep you updated on latest happenings on the TDC landscape and in the profession.

TECHNOLOGY

American Nurses Association (ANA) - Health Information Technology Initiatives
Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC-HIT)
Health Information Management System Society (HIMSS) Nursing Informatics
American Nursing Informatics Association (ANIA)
Alliance for Nursing Informatics (ANI)

DATA

University of Minnesota – Nursing Knowledge Big Data Conference
HIMSS - Guiding Principles for Big Data in Nursing
Wiley Online Library – Journal of Nursing Scholarship - Nursing Needs Big Data and Big Data Needs Nursing
HealthIT Analytics
Healthcare IT News - Analytics

CREATIVITY

Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Innovation – Transforming Care at the Bedside
Northeastern University – Nurse Innovation & Entrepreneurialship
The Online Journal of Issues in Nursing – Nursing Technologies: Innovation and Implementation
American Nurse Today – Special Report: Nursing Technology and Information Systems
Health ONC IT Buzz
Recommendations for increasing your TDC literacy to invent new ways of caring

Understanding the industry and where nursing adds value by using health technologies is essential for the invention of new ways of caring. A thirst for knowledge about TDC is the starting point for exploring the state of healthcare information technology, the use of data in care delivery and the development of innovations to operationalize them in all settings.

Tips to jumpstart your knowledge about TDC

- **Understand** how you use healthcare technology in your environment everyday
- **Become** mindful of how health tech improves or impedes care delivery in your setting
- **Increase** your awareness of the endless streams of data in and outside of nursing
- **Discover** data in your setting and question how it may help improve patient care
- **Embrace** your creative side and become curious about nursing innovation
- **Recognize** where you can appropriately disrupt practice in your setting to improve it
- **Read** and become involved in projects and organizations focused on nurse technology
- **Explore** social media networks that that emphasize nursing technology, data, and creativity

And finally: Join the Nurse Evolution community for TDC blogs and resources to help you create what’s next in nursing.
“Mastering TDC will make you the inventor of what’s next in how you deliver evidence-based care and the nursing profession. No matter where you work, or your level of nursing, the use of technology combined with an ability to see the big picture through data collection and analysis, and a spirit of transformation and creativity will evolve nursing practice now”.

Our mission is to guide nurses to expertly use technology, data, and creation for the improvement of the health of people and communities, and patient and nurse experience for the evolution and enhancement of nursing practice and the profession.

www.nurseevolution.com

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