

Concept & Principles of Family –Centered Care

Concepts

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Definition of Family Centered Care:

Family centered care is caring for the client & family as a unit. Family centered care commands a need for nurses who are capable communicators & able to attend to family values, perceptions & needs. The implication of family centered care family clinicians must not only have a thorough understanding about family context but must also be cognizant of the impact of functional process on health (Denham, 2003)

The term of family centered care describes a philosophy of care that recognizes the centrality of the family in the child's life and inclusion of the family's contribution and involvement in the plan for-care & its delivery. It is a health care delivery model that seeks to fully involve families in the care of members.

The key elements of family centered care:

1. Incorporating in to policy and practice the recognition that the family is the constant in a people's life. Where as the service systems and support personnel fluctuate.
2. Facilitating family / professional collaboration at all levels of hospital, home and community care. Care of an individual child, program development, implementation and evaluation and policy formation.
3. Exchanging complete and unbiased information between families and professionals in a supportive manner at all times.
4. Incorporating in to policy and practice the recognition and honoring of cultural diversity, strengths and individually within and across all families, including ethnic, racial, spiritual, social, economic, educational and geographic diversity.
5. Recognizing and respecting different methods of family coping and implementing comprehensive policies and programs that provide developmental, educational, emotional, environmental and financial supports to meet the diverse needs of families.
6. Encouraging and facilitating family to family support and net working.
7. Ensuring that hospital, home and community services and support systems for children needing specialized health and developmental care and their families are flexible, accessible and comprehensive in responding to diverse family identified needs.

8. Appreciating families as families and children as children, recognizing that they possess a wide range of strengths concerns, emotions and aspirations beyond their need for specialized health and developmental services & support.

Describe the principles of family centered care:

Designed to promote greater family self determination, decision making capabilities, control and self-efficacy. Collectively, these attributes are said to reflect a sense of empowerment. In contrast, the medical model directs health care professionals to assume the roles of evaluation and controller of treatment interventions. This approach result in child and care giver dependence n the health care providers. This position is in direct confect with the conditions necessary for more active involvement of caregivers in the care of their health impaired children. Many health care providers respect and support the idea of family centered care; however, the practice of this type of care has not been fully actualized. This discrepancy between their support and actual practice of family centered care may be attributed in part of the model they employ