

# **An Innovative Clinical Concept Map to Promote Clinical Judgment in Nursing Students**

Niki Eisenmann, PhD, RN  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Academic Practice Partner



College of Health Sciences  
Fay W. Whitney  
School of Nursing

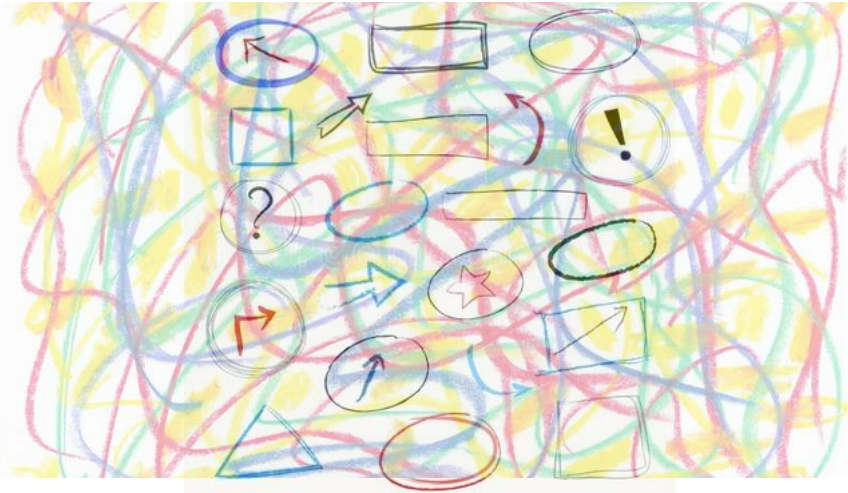
1

## **Disclosures**

- The presenter declares no conflict of interest

2

## Background



3

## Traditional Concept Maps

- Concept maps were introduced in nursing education in 1992
- A nurse's requisite knowledge has changed in 27 years
- In clinical areas, the care plan is isolated from the "care" especially in student experiences
- Information overload

4

# Clinical Judgment

- Entry level nurses must make judgments with a significant amount of information
- Increased patient acuity and complexity
- Prevention of complications
- NexGen NCLEX

5

# Top of Map

Patient risk factors:	Patient signs/symptoms:	Applicable Lab findings:	Diagnostic Tests/Findings:	
Cancer Heart disease Immunosuppression DM Viruses Intubation smoking	COPD Asthma Difficulty swallowing	Cough (non-productive) Shortness of breath (RR 14, SpO2 91% on 2L) Fever (temp 101.5) Pleuretic chest pain (pain=3)	WBC (22) Blood glucose 322 Hgb A1C 11.3 ABG's pH (7.2)	CXR - + infiltrates Sputum culture pending

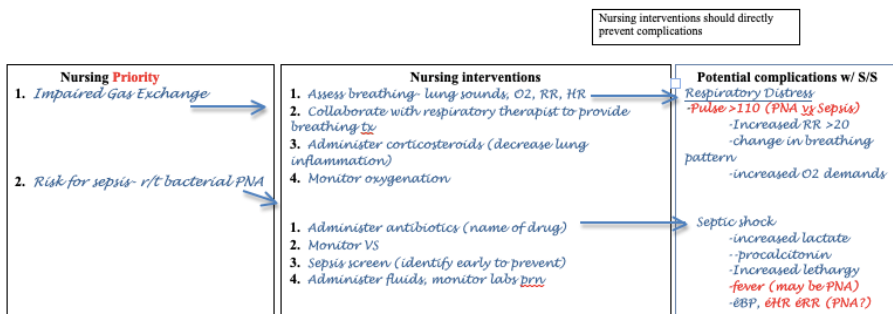
6

# Middle of Map

<b>Major Disease Process/Problem:</b> <i>Pneumonia</i>	<b>Etiology/Causes:</b> <i>Recent influenza diagnosis; smoker (2ppd)</i>	<b>What (if any) psychosocial considerations may impact the outcome?</b> <b>How?</b> Name any resources, referrals, collaboration, or interventions necessary.  <i>Patient is having a hard time affording their medications.</i>  <i>Wife may be unable to care for patient's needs at home.</i>
<b>Definition:</b>  <i>Inflammation of lungs from virus causes secretions to be trapped in alveoli causing bacteria to grow. Cough reflex is diminished from smoking; unable to clear secretions from influenza viral infection.</i>		
<b>How can this disease progress?</b> <i>↑SOB, ↑O2 demands (current 91% on 2L), éanxiety or doom; respiratory distress</i> <i>Respiratory failure</i> <i>Tachycardia (compensation, current 87)</i>		
<b>Other factors that affect the disease or other co-morbidities the client has:</b> (List other health history, medications, or labs that could affect the major problem) <i>Diabetes- high blood sugars increase infection risk. Need to control glucose. May be high r/t infection and Corticosteroid treatment also.</i> <i>COPD- inhalers may help breathing. PNA may exacerbate COPD</i>		

7

# Bottom of Map



8

Eisenmann, N. (2020). An innovative clinical concept map to promote clinical judgment in nursing students. *Journal of Nursing Education*(60) 3, 143-149.