



Nursing Audit

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Objectives

- **Define nursing audit.**
- **List Purposes of a nursing audit.**
- **Explain elements of the audit.**
- **List principles of clinical audit.**
- **Enumerate benefits of Audit.**
- **List Advantages and disadvantages Nursing.**
- **Discriminate between types of nursing audit.**

Outlines

- **Introduction.**
- **Definition of nursing audit.**
- **Purposes of nursing audit.**
- **Elements of the audit.**
- **Principles of clinical audit.**
- **Benefits of audit.**
- **Types of nursing audit.**
- **Comparison between concurrent and retrospective audit**

Introduction

- **Nursing audit is an evaluation of nursing service. It involves the review and inspection of information from such sources as nursing reports and documentation. Nursing care may be reviewed while a client is receiving care and also retrospectively after care has been completed.**

Definition of nursing Audit

- **Nursing audit** is an exercise to find out whether good nursing practices are followed.

Or

- **Nursing audit** defined as administrative tool for evaluating the quality of nursing care as reflecting in the medical records.

Purposes of a nursing audit

1. Evaluating nursing care given.
2. Achieves deserved and feasible quality of nursing care.
3. Stimulant to better records.
4. Focuses on care provided and not on care provider.
5. Contributes to research.
6. To improve the quality of care and to prove that quality of care was delivered.
7. Demonstrating the value and benefits of nursing services.

Elements of nursing audit

- 1-Written standards of care. which are available as a base for comparison with the medical record (policies, procedures, charting, guide, etc)**
- 2-A workable method, to provide a pre selected group of charting to the audit group.**
- 3-A functioning audit group and or a functioning policy and coordinating group.**
- 4-A workable system of communication. designed to ensure that the data obtained and reach the desired action group.**

Principles of clinical audit

1-Defining the objective. Any effective care requires individuals work as a team and depend on the team holding the same values and expectation.

2-Developing standards and ways to measure them. professionals have been already written their standards, and audit may be seen as a link between standard-setting and monitoring of quality and audit.

Principles of clinical audit

3-Agreeing, implementing, and monitoring change.

Monitor the standards and identify the gaps and take action to ensure that the gap is closed and the audit cycle is completed.

Benefits of Audit

- 1- NA compares the care which actually is given.**
- 2- NA provides a mean for self improvement.**
- 3- NA allows nurses to measure the more intangible aspects of their work.**
- 4- NA concentrates on finding solutions for the problems identified.**

Types of audit

I-Generally audit classified as:

-Internal auditing: Internal auditing is a control technique performed by an internal auditor who is an employee of the organization.

-External auditing: it is an independent appraisal of the organizations financial account and statements

Types of audit

II-Audit classification by community health organization as:

- Nursing management audit.
- Retrospective audit.
- Concurrent audits.

III-Audit classified according to personnel as:

- Retrospective evaluation.
- Concurrent evaluation.
- Peer review.

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Types of audit

IV-Audit classified by administrators as:

- **Retrospective audit** are performed after the patient receives the service.
- **Concurrent audit** Evaluate care conducted during patient hospitalization, examine the care being given by reviewing what record.
- **Prospective audit.** Attempt to identify how future performance will be affected by current interventions.

Concurrent audit

- The concurrent audit using:

1-Open chart audit: Review of the patient's charts and records against present criteria? As the patient is still receiving care, this process gives staff immediate feedback.

2-Patient interview or observation: Which involves taking to the patient about certain aspects of care, conducting a bedside audit or observing the patient's behavior to present criteria?

Concurrent audit

3-Peer review: Occurs when practicing nurses determine the standards and criteria that indicate the quality and evaluate performance against it. (Nurses evaluate each other).

4-Staff interview or observation: Which involves talking to and observing nursing behaviors related to present criteria.

Concurrent audit

5-Group conference: Which involves the patient and family to joint discussion with staff about the care being received? This leads to problems being discussed and improved plans being agreed upon.

Retrospective audit

- **The retrospective audit, using:**

1-Closed chart audit (nursing audit): it is the method used to evaluate/monitor the quality of the care provided as it is reflected on patient's records to identify strengths and deficits of care.

Retrospective audit

2-Post care patient interview: which is carried out after patient is discharged. It involves inviting the patient and his/her family members to meet to discuss experiences.

3-Post care staff conference: which involves the professionals that cared for the patient? The process involves a review of records, charts and care plans.

Retrospective audit

4-Post care patient questionnaire: which is completed by the patient on discharge or after returning home about the aspects of care provided? 2 or 3 Points are usually designed to measure patient satisfaction.

Comparison between Concurrent and Retrospective Audit

	Concurrent audit	Retrospective audit
Purpose	- Assess the past and present care given to a client.	- Assess care that has already been received by clients.
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide faster information to care givers that help to alter and improve a particular client's care plan. - Help in providing immediate corrective action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The care of clients whose charts are audited is not influenced by the outcome of the retrospective audit. - Provide slower information - Less time to complete.
Disadvantages:	-Costly	- Less costly than concurrent audit
Methods	- Uses patient records in the review , interviews with clients and health team members and observation of care given.	-Uses records review , post care questionnaire , patient's interviews .
Benefits	- Is most useful to those directly involved in client care?	- Is most useful to the organization to give an overall picture of care given to clients.

