The Dimensions Model And Mammography Screening among Thai Women

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Presentation Purpose

Introduce the Dimensions Model

 Discuss the use of the model in a study of mammography among Thai women in Southern California

Study Funding

This research was supported by a Community Research Collaboration award from the California Breast Cancer Research Program



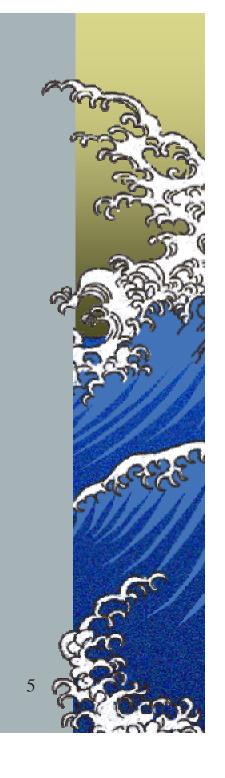
The Dimensions Model

- A model for community health nursing practice incorporating:
 - A determinants of health perspective
 - Levels of prevention
 - Nursing intervention



Model Components

- Dimensions of health
- Dimensions of health care
- Dimensions of nursing



Dimensions of Health

- Biophysical
- Psychological
- Physical environmental
- Sociocultural
- Behavioral
- Health system



Dimensions of Health Care

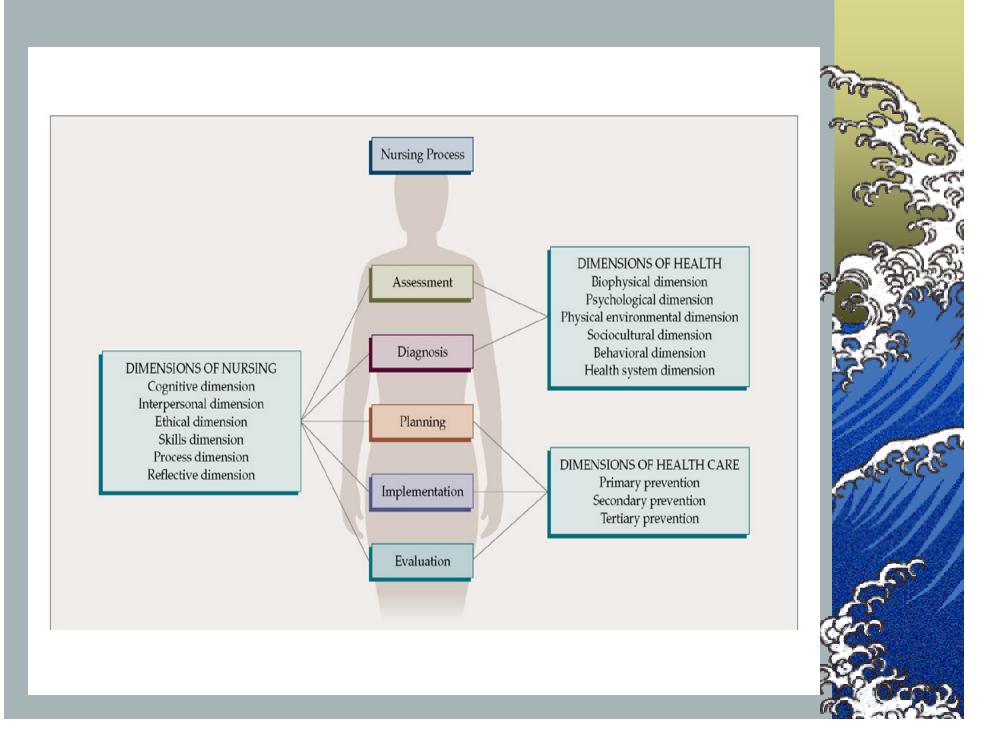
- Primary prevention
- Secondary prevention
- Tertiary prevention



Dimensions of Nursing

- Cognitive
- Interpersonal
- Ethical
- Skills
- Process
- Reflective





Study Purpose

 To identify factors that promote or impede mammography screening among older Thai women in Southern California



Methods

- Focus groups with 36 Thai women aged 40-73 in Los Angeles and San Diego counties
- Content analysis of focus group transcripts



Findings: Biophysical Factors

- Maturation and aging:
 - Belief that breast cancer only occurs in older women
 - Older age brings greater health consciousness and concern
- Genetic inheritance: Belief that Thai women don't usually get breast cancer



Findings: Biophysical Factors

- Physical factors:
 - Breast lump, leakage
 - Large breasts
 - Physical injury
 - Pain



Findings: Psychological Factors

- Fear
 - Some women fear finding out that they have cancer
 - Some fear having cancer and want to find out as early as possible
- Karma
- Stress as a cause of cancer



Findings: Physical Environmental Factors

- Distance to services (more relevant in Thailand than U.S.)
- Lack of transportation



Findings: Sociocultural Factors

- Knowledge
- Culture
- Language barriers
- Economic issues
- Social responsibilities



Findings: Behavioral Factors

- Touching/squeezing breasts
- Prostitution
- Use of hormones
- Augmentation
- Diet
- Procrastination
- BSE substitution



Findings: Health System Factors

- Health insurance status
- Provider messages
- Mammography services



Next Steps

- Telephone interviews to determine prevalence of factors in the Thai community.
- Intervention study



Intervention

- Will probably target 40-50 age group
- Will probably focus on
 - Changing perceptions of susceptibility
 - Decreasing perceptions of pain as an impediment to screening
 - Redefining social responsibilities to include screening



Intervention

- Will incorporate the
 - Cognitive dimension
 - Interpersonal dimension
 - Ethical dimension
 - Process dimension, and
 - Reflective dimension of nursing

