

Original Article

Artistic nursing care: Rodgers' evolutionary concept analysis

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ABSTRACT

**Background & Aim:** Artistic nursing care is defined as combining knowledge, skills, and judgment to provide the best care. Different studies have introduced different and even contradictory characteristics for this concept. Therefore, nurses are confused about it. This study aimed to clarify artistic nursing care.

**Methods & Materials:** Rodgers' evolutionary method was used to clarify the concept of artistic nursing care. This method included the initial phase, core analysis phase, and further analysis phase. Literature from 1990 to 2020 was sought using Springer, PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, OVID, and SID databases. In general, 28 articles and two books were selected and analyzed.

**Results:** The attributes of artistic nursing care included discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient, paying intuition attention to the patient individuality to recognize all their needs, creating a positive image of the patient's condition, manifesting love in caring behaviors, and creating opportunities for a healing presence. The antecedents for artistic nursing care include having knowledge and experience, commitment to ethical principles, altruism, and active presence in the field of care. Artistic nursing care improves the patient's physical and mental health, increases the patient's sense of well-being and happiness, increases patient and nurse satisfaction.

**Conclusion:** In this study, the antecedents, attributes, and consequences of artistic nursing care are presented objectively and practically, which can be used to teach the methods of providing artistic nursing care and design tools for measuring this concept.

Introduction

Nursing care can be described as integrating science and art (1). nursing practice is a combination of science and art (2). Science alone cannot solve all nursing problems (3). While science in nursing education and practice is evident, art is overshadowed, jeopardizing nursing's humanitarian nature (2).

Artistic nursing care is of interest to many theorists and philosophers. The concept of art in nursing was introduced in 1860 by Nightingale, who considered nursing as fine art (4). After Nightingale, some nursing theorists also emphasized the provision of artistic nursing care and have shown their definition of this concept.

Johnson defined artistic nursing care as the ability to grasp the meaning of inpatient encounters, establish a meaningful connection with the patient, perform nursing activities skillfully, provide an appropriate and rational course of nursing, and conduct nursing practice morally (3).

From an ethical point of view, Allgood has defined the concept of artistic nursing care as respecting, responding, and empathizing with patients (5). In this regard, Watson emphasizes the creative aspects of nursing. She defines the art of caring as a way of understanding patients' emotions and uniting with them to harmonize the body, mind, and soul in patients and achieve



healing (1). As shown, different nursing theorists have reported different definitions of this concept based on their philosophical views. Also, these definitions are so abstract and do not practically show nurses how to provide artistic nursing care.

Some empirical and review studies have also examined the concept of artistic nursing care. Jenner introduced six characteristics to describe nursing's art as creative, expressive, communal, interpretive, subjective, and evocative (6). In this regard, Finfgeld-Connett introduced two attributes of the intimate nurse-patient relationship and expert practice (7). In a phenomenological study, Karimollahi et al. introduced aspects of artistic nursing care as maternal/angelic care, professional nursing care, and continuous nursing presence (8). In a narrative study, Gramling considers artistic nursing care as the art of constant presence, recognizing the patients' unique needs, intimacy, deep attention to detail during care, and respect for the patients' body (9). Duran and Cetinkaya-Uslusoy, in qualitative content analysis, have introduced the art of nursing as patient interaction, professional values, and professional knowledge (10). Each nursing theory and field study has addressed an aspect of artistic nursing care. Some of them also defined artistic nursing care to include nursing ethics or the use of formal arts such as music. Therefore, artistic nursing care has overlapped with the concepts of ethics and even technical nursing care, and nurses are confused in understanding and applying it.

## Methods

This study aimed to clarify artistic nursing care. Rodgers' evolutionary concept analysis was used to clarify this concept. We used Rodgers' evolutionary method because the concept clarification and separation of related and surrogate concepts are properly done (11). The six stages of Rogers' evolutionary method in three phases were carried out as follows:

### 1. The initial phase

#### 1-1. Choice of concepts for analysis

The first step started with choosing a concept for analysis. "Significance" is a central aspect for choosing of concept for analysis (11). Regarding the lack of a clear definition of artistic nursing care and its importance in nursing, this concept was chosen.

#### 1-2. The context of a concept

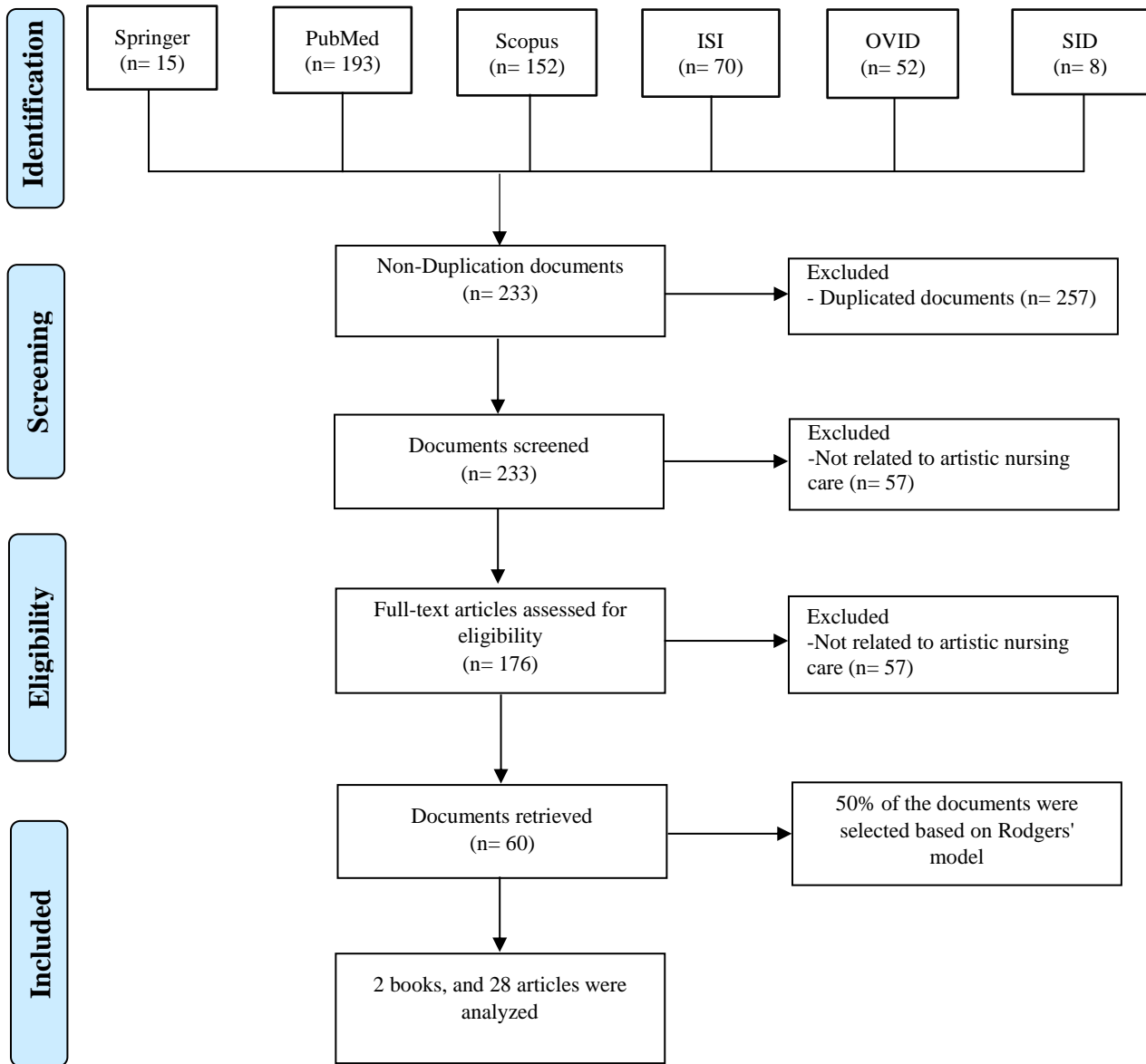
The art of nursing was first introduced in the early 1990s in the nursing literature. Therefore, we searched for publications from 1990 to 2020 (7). In addition to nursing disciplines, two disciplines of medicine and clinical psychology were also examined.

#### 1-3. Collection of material for concept analysis

The Springer, PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, OVID, and SID databases were searched to retrieve documents. The following keywords were used in our search: "Nurse", "nursing", "art", "artistic", and "care". Some search strategies were as follows: ("art of nursing" [Title/Abstract]), and ("artistic nursing care" [Title/Abstract]). Inclusion criteria included being published from 1990 to 2020, access to the article's full text, relevant to the antecedents, attributes, and consequences of artistic nursing care, and being published in English or Persian languages. As shown in the PRISMA Flow Diagram (Figure. 1), after searching the databases with the mentioned criteria, 490 documents were obtained. Two hundred fifty-seven duplicates were removed. Each document was screened against the above inclusion criteria by title and abstract. Fifty-seven articles that did not meet the inclusion criteria were removed. The full text of the remaining 176 documents was read in its entirety, followed by focusing on the concept's context, surrogate and related terms, antecedents, attributes, examples, and consequences. Sixty documents describing these issues were identified as relevant.

Rodgers recommends that approximately 20% of all documents should be included in the study (11). However, the research team entered 50% of the documents (28 articles and

2 books) into the analysis for more accuracy. Each of these steps was performed independently by all three authors. Disagreements were resolved by consensus.



**Figure 1.** PRISMA flow diagram

**2. The core analysis phase**

We selected the concept of artistic nursing care for analysis. Also, some related and surrogate terms were selected. Related terms have something in common with the concept but do not possess the same characteristics. Surrogate terms are other words that are generally misplaced instead of the intended one and express similar cases (11). In this study, surrogate terms were

"ethical care", "spiritual care", "palliative care" (2), "skill" (6); and the related terms were "intuition care" (7), "beauty" (6), "aesthetics", and "care" (12).

Data analysis was performed by Graneheim and Lundman method. Each document was read in its entirety and after that read with a focus on answering these questions: "Do other words say the same thing

as artistic nursing care?" "Do other words have something in common with artistic nursing care?" "What are the characteristics and features of artistic care in nursing?" "What are the characteristics of this concept that distinguish it from alternative terms (attribute)?" "What conditions and situations are necessary before the occurrence of artistic nursing care (antecedents)?" "What are the outcomes of artistic nursing care, and what will happen after it (consequences)?" In the text of each document, the phrases that

answered these questions were identified and highlighted.

Then, the meaning units of each document were determined and coded. After that, the primary codes were compared based on the similarities and dissimilarities and were assigned to separate subcategories and categories (Table 1). Data analysis was performed using MAXQDA10 software. All authors analyzed the data independently and revised minor disagreements after the research team discussion. Also, an external reviewer approved the accuracy of data analysis (13).

**Table 1.** Extraction of the attribute of discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient

Category	Subcategories	Codes
Discovering a unique way of establishing a happy and integrated relationship with the patient	Uniting with the patients while considering their individuality	-The nurses' way of showing humane behaviors in their actions, thoughts, and feelings (10) -The nurses' unique communication with each patient (1) -Nurse's skills in balancing the world of technology with humanity (14) -Establishing harmony between one's body, mind, and soul (1)
	Discovering the way to get closing and uniting with the patient	-The complementarity of the nurse and the patient in interaction with each other, like painting for a painter (10) -The ability to synchronize and communicate with each patient through kindness, empathy, humor, touch, and thoughtful actions (7) -The ability to create a meaningful and empathetic relationship with the patient (3, 5, 7, 10)
	Creating comfort and happiness in patients	-Making the patient happy by being tidy, neat, and clean (8, 12) -The skill of forgetting one's problems and worries while being with the patient (12) -Discovering ways to communicate verbally or nonverbally with the patients to relieve their pain (3, 14)

### 3. The further analysis phase

#### 3-1. Interpreting the results

The collected data were presented in terms of similarities and differences in the relevant categories. A comprehensive interpretation was provided for each category, and according to the interpretations, the concept was defined.

#### 3-2. Identifying the implications

The application of the concept was documented based on the previous studies.

#### Ethical considerations

The research project has received the confirmation of the Institution Ethics Committee of Tarbiat Modares University (no: IR.TMU.REC.1397.234).

#### Results

Data analysis sources included 28 articles and 2 books, which are shown in detail in Table 2.

**Table 2.** A review of articles and analysis

<b>Author (year), country</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Study design or Source</b>	<b>Results</b>
Henry, USA	Rediscovering the art of nursing to enhance nursing practice	Literature Review	Nursing art is a way of being and knowing patients, leading to satisfaction and understanding between the patient and the nurse
Karimollahi, Iran	The concept of nursing art in the experiences of patients with open-heart surgery	Interpretative Phenomenology	The art of nursing included motherly-angelic care, permanent presence, and professional care.
Walji-Jivraj, Canada	Nurses' experience of creating an artistic instrument as a form of professional development: an art-informed narrative inquiry	Narrative inquiry (qualitative approach to nursing narratives, an adaptation of Schwinn's narrative reflective process)	Six narrative threads from the use of art in nursing included empathy, communication, quality of life, power imbalances, professional development, and personal development.
Radmehr, Iran	Development and psychometric evaluation of the aesthetics of nursing care scale	Descriptive (part of a sequential exploratory mixed methods research)	Four dimensions of aesthetic nursing included admirable, compassionate, and competent commitment, patient satisfaction and comfort, stress-free care, and humanistic attention to the patient
Rahim, Pakistan	Shining a light on nursing art in Pakistan	Qualitative content Analysis	Nursing art included healing power, satisfying experience, human responsiveness, and invisibility in nursing practice.
Tirado, USA	Exploring the art of nursing and its influence on patient satisfaction in acute care settings	Thesis (integrative literature review)	The impact of nursing art on patients' satisfaction included meaningful communication with the patient, nurses' availability for the patient, creating a relationship with the patient, and conducting a thorough assessment of the patient.
Duran, Turkey	Opinions of nursing students on the art of nursing: A qualitative study	Qualitative content analysis	The artistic aspects of nursing included professional knowledge, professional values, and interaction with the patient.
Ashktorab, Iran	Nursing art: patients' experience in a phenomenological study	Interpretive Phenomenology	Nursing art included a subjective description, overt spirituality, opening desperate impasse, the manifestation of capabilities beyond duty, and unity of feeling.
Walker, Canada	The art of nursing in public health	Thesis (qualitative content analysis)	Nurses' understanding of public health of art included focusing on people, creating meaningful connections, understanding the whole, and knowing what to do to explore further factors influencing the art of nursing in public health.
Finfgeld-Connett, USA	Concept synthesis of the art of nursing	Concept Analysis	Attributes of the art of nursing included expert practice and nurses' relationship with the patient-centered nursing practice.
Finfgeld-Connett, USA	Qualitative convergence of three nursing concepts: the art of nursing, presence and caring	Integrated review (meta-syntheses)	The convergence of three concepts of nursing art, presence, and care showed an intimate relationship between nurse and patient, which results from personal and professional knowledge and is based on holistic values and patient empowerment, which leads to enhanced well-being of both patients and nurses.
Gramling, USA	A narrative study of nursing art in critical care	Hermeneutic phenomenology	Nursing art included knowing the other, intimacy, deep detail and constant presence
LeVasseur, USA	A phenomenological study of the art of nursing: experiencing the turn	Interpretive phenomenology	The art of nursing included helping the patient trust the nurse, helping the patient in a hard time, helping the patient see new opportunities, helping the patient change, and taking charge.

Alligood, USA	A theory of the art of nursing discovered in Rogers' science of unitary human beings	Qualitative hermeneutic	Nursing art included respect, responsibility, and empathy with the patient.
Jenner, USA	The art of nursing: A Concept Analysis	Concept Analysis (the adaptation of Rodgers' model of concept synthesis)	Attributes of nursing art included creativity, interpretive, subjective, evocative, expressive, and nurse-patient participation.
Appleton, USA	The art of nursing: the experience of patients and nurses	A phenomenological approach to using narratives from interviews	The art of nursing is a way of being with patients, understanding the patient, creating opportunities for the fullness of being with patients, a transcendent together, and the context of caring.
Wolf, USA	Exploring rituals in nursing: Joining art and science	Book	The art of nursing is respecting the patient's beliefs and values, providing a calm, beautiful and respectful face to the patient's personality, and administering medications with the least pain and as efficiently as possible.
Contreras Ibacache, Chile	Evidence of art in nursing	Expert opinion	The art of nursing is not just a work of art such as painting, but in the moment of care, nurses can show their art, from scientific communication to a simple glance at the patient under care.
Shahsavari, Iran	Nursing as an art	Expert opinion	Nursing art has the most harmony with aesthetics, and in fact, it is beautiful to see events and happenings in nursing practice.
Iseminger, USA	Healing during existential moments: the "art" of nursing presence	Expert opinion	The artful nurse is someone who understands the specific needs of each patient by being with the patient
Jasmine, USA	Art, science, or both? keeping the care in nursing	Expert opinion	The art of nursing is the skill of anticipating patients' needs for health promotion and wellness.
Price, Canada	The art of nursing: communication and self-expression	Expert opinion	The use of art forms in nursing is a way to increase aesthetic knowledge, increase communication, foster awareness, and respect the uniqueness of each patient.
Cantrell, USA	The art of pediatric oncology nursing practice	Discussion papers	As compassionate presence and communication with the patient, nursing art can foster a positive near-term treatment response, positive sense of well-being, and long-term outcomes.
Dawson, UK	The art of nursing: A hidden science?	Editorial	Nursing art is a unique way of caring and responding to patients and their families, which is often invisible and easily be hidden by the science of technical healthcare.
Orem, USA	Self-care theory in nursing: selected papers of Dorothea Orem	Book	Artistic nursing care includes a personal and unique nursing service to the patient, which requires the nurse to be present in a practical situation.
Wainwright, UK	The art of nursing	Expert opinion	Nursing is an art, and sometimes art is considered a fine art like music. However, the art of nursing is beyond fine arts.
Dean, UK	Reflections on technology: increasing the science but diminishing the art of nursing?	Expert opinion	The art of nursing creates a balance between the world of technology and physical needs, psychosocial needs, and human dignity.
Edwards, UK	The art of nursing	Discussion papers	There are difficulties in judging that nursing art is a craft because crafts have clear characteristics, while nursing art emphasizes more unspecifiable aspects of the practice, such as intuition and emotion.
Kolcaba, USA	The art of comfort care	Discussion papers	The current nursing structure requires artist nurses. It is useful to use the comfort care model for the nursing art that is comfortable and understandable because comfort care is holistic, individualized, efficient, and gratifying to patients as well as nurses.
Parse, USA	The performing art of nursing	Editorial	The art of nursing is a creative life of science and unique care to people. It is the true use of knowledge.

***Attributes of artistic nursing care***

According to the results of this study, attributes of artistic nursing included discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient, paying intuition attention to the patient individuality to recognize all their needs, creating a positive image of the patients' condition, manifesting love in caring behaviors, and creating opportunities for a healing presence.

***Discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient***

Communicating with the patient does not have a written and fixed protocol and instruction. In this regard, the nurses must discover or invent appropriate methods according to the patients' characteristics and circumstances (12). An artist nurse is a person who creates a unique relationship by establishing a transcendent relationship and uniting with the patient, in which patients freely express their ideas and feelings (12). The artist nurse complements the patient like paint for painting. If the painters do not have feelings for the painting, they will not succeed in their works (10, 12). Sometimes, establishing a unique and integrated relationship with the patients requires nurses to play the role of a patients' child, mother (10).

The artist nurses know how to create an empathetic and meaningful relationship with the patients to understand their problems and needs (5, 7, 10). Being kind and having a smiley face have thousands of times more healing effects than any medical treatment. Therefore, artist nurses try to have a tidy and beautiful appearance in the nurse-patient relationship with smiling and energetic faces (12, 14).

***Paying intuition attention to the patient individuality to recognize all their needs***

Some patients are unable to explain their needs. In this situation, the artist nurse uses intelligent cognition and intuitive

understanding (2) to understand patients' feelings and anticipate their needs (2, 6, 12). Intuitive understanding is beyond knowledge and skill. It is learned and is created based on experience, skill, insight, and individual inspiration. An artist nurse is an intelligent person who, with full knowledge of each patient's history, has accurately identified each patient's specific thoughts and needs (9) When the patients talk about their experience of pain and fear, the artist nurses intuitively understand their situation and anticipate their needs (2). This way, they can simultaneously address all the patient's physical, mental, spiritual, and social needs (2, 7, 10).

***Creating a positive image of the patient's condition***

Artist nurses must know how to respect each patient's privacy, beliefs, and values (3, 9). They should respect the patients in front of their families and others. For instance, when a person dies in an accident and his/her physical appearance changes, the artist nurse tries to create a beautiful and respectful face of the deceased. So that the deceased's family does not realize his/her terrible death and endures less suffering in the grief of losing their loved one (3); moreover, nurses should increase the patients' hope of recovery and encourage them to find new opportunities (15). They should help patients with the worst physical and mental conditions to understand the truth of life, accept their physical and mental changes, and return to their normal lives (16).

***Manifesting love in caring behaviors***

Artistic nurses, whenever they are present at the patients' bedside, despite all the difficulties, always try to take care of the patient beyond their job description, with patience, passion, and love (8, 12). In emergencies, nurses forget their needs, like mothers, and take care of the patient lovingly (8).

### ***Creating opportunities for a healing presence***

The artist nurses must convince the patients that they are always aware of their condition and are available to them (9, 12). Hospitalized patients feel fear, insecurity, and insecurity for a variety of reasons. In these cases, artist nurses try to reduce their anxiety and fear by stroking and holding their hands (9). They always seek to create an opportunity for a permanent presence with the patient (5). They try to make their presence healed every time they are present at the patients' bedside (12) and creatively use their psychological and physical knowledge to relieve their pain and discomfort (14).

### ***Antecedents of artistic nursing care***

Nurses can provide artistic care to patients who, in addition to having knowledge and expertise, be ethical and altruistic. Also, providing artistic nursing care requires an active presence in the field of care.

### ***Having knowledge and experience***

Artistic care is achieved through nurses' knowledge (6) and awareness of empirical science and metaphysics. Empirical science is the knowledge of nursing that has been developed through scientific and evidence-based research, but metaphysics is derived from the unique experience and intuition of the nurse (2, 7). Achieving metaphysical knowledge requires years of scientific effort and expertise (12).

### ***Commitment to ethical principles***

For artistic nursing care, nurses must gain the patients' trust (2). Gaining patient trust requires a commitment to ethical and professional values (8) and non-discrimination between patients (10).

### ***Altruism***

Love and respect for humanity are necessary for artistic care (10). Artist nurses

know that they are dealing with human beings. Understanding other human experiences and feelings requires nurses that have developed human characteristics (2). Sometimes, the nurses act beyond their duties based on their sense of humanity to save patients' lives (8, 12).

### ***Active presence in the field of care***

Artistic nursing care requires the presence of nurses in practical situations (12). As the creator of a work of art, the artist nurse must actively focus his mind and body completely to achieve the best results (17). Providing artistic nursing care also requires patients to be active. In order to provide artistic nursing care, patients must also be able to actively focus their minds and bodies on nurses so that they can better understand the message of care (6).

### ***Consequences of artistic nursing care***

The consequences of artistic nursing care included improving the patients' physical and mental health, increasing patients' sense of well-being and happiness, and increasing satisfaction in nurses and patients.

### ***Improving the patient's physical and mental health***

Paying attention to the patients' needs and creatively caring for them with love can lead to a sense of well-being and comfort (10). It also improves patients' physical (7) and mental health (7).

### ***Increasing patient's sense of well-being and happiness***

Hope and altruism can also lead to increased self-esteem, a sense of security, happiness, and the well-being of patients (7).

### ***Increasing satisfaction in nurses and patients***

Nurses' healing presence and reducing patients' suffering can increase patients' sense of satisfaction. Nurses are also satisfied to see



## *Artistic nursing care*

the impact of their work on improving patients' health and reducing pain (2).

### ***Determining the concept of artistic care in medical and clinical psychology***

In the medical profession and clinical psychology, each patient is considered a human being in other health care professions. The results of this study show that the characteristics of artistic medicine included establishing a relationship with patients, knowing patients' specific needs, and using creative methods to treat patients (18). Also, the characteristics of artistic clinical psychology included the skill of understanding the visible and invisible needs of patients (19) and the creative use of artistic tools to treat patients (20).

### ***The definition of artistic nursing care***

Artistic nursing care is a complex and dynamic concept. It does not merely involve the use of artistic tools, such as music and poetry. However, it involves standard and motivational methods that focus on discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patients while paying intuitive attention to their individuality and recognizing their needs. During the complex course of a disease, nursing care continues by creating a positive image of the patient's condition, manifesting love in caring behaviors, and creating opportunities for nurse's healing presence. The antecedents for artistic nursing care include having knowledge and experience, commitment to ethical principles, altruism, and active nursing presence in the field of care. Artistic nursing care improves the patient's physical and mental health, increases the patient's sense of well-being and happiness, increases patient and nurse satisfaction.

## **Discussion**

This study provides a clear and complete definition of artistic nursing care using previous studies. The findings show that artistic nursing care is a dynamic and

complex concept and goes beyond the concepts of beauty and aesthetics. According to the results of this study, artistic nursing care is not the use of artistic tools such as painting and music (21). However, in addition to standard care and creative patient care, it includes five attributes of discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient, paying intuition attention to the patient individuality to recognize all their needs, creating a positive image of the patient's condition, manifesting love in caring behaviors, and creating opportunities for a healing presence.

In a content analysis study, Duran and Cetinkaya-Uslusoy have introduced the art of nursing with patient interaction, professional values, and professional knowledge (10). This study also shows that nurse-patient communication is one of the attributes of artistic nursing care. However, we offer in detail that any communication with the patient could not be considered artistic nursing care, and we tried to eliminate the overlap between the concepts of nurse-patient communication and artistic nursing care. This study shows that nurses try to discover a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patients to provide artistic nursing care. Establishing a happy and integrated relationship with the patients can turn their grief into happiness, and nurses can identify all their needs while establishing an effective relationship with patients. Duran and Cetinkaya-Uslusoy also consider adherence to professional values knowledge in nursing care as attributes of artistic care (10). Antecedents are conditions and situations that are necessary before the occurrence of a concept (11). This study shows that adherence to ethical values, knowledge, and expertise are antecedents of artistic nursing care.

Karimollahi et al. consider maternal care, angelic care, professional care, and continuous presence as the art of nursing. Karimollahi emphasizes the emotional and quantity aspects of care (8). Unlike Karimollahi's study, the current study refers

to a healing presence that is qualitative and beyond emotional and physical presence. Presence has three levels: bedside presence, clinical presentation, and healing presence. Bedside occurs only with an inexperienced nurse sitting next to the patient. Clinical presence occurs with experienced, knowledgeable, and skilled nurses on the patients' beds. Healing presence is beyond these two presences and occurs when the nurse can artistically use her knowledge, skills, and creativity to heal a patient (22). In the definition of artistic nursing care, Karimollahi et al. has mentioned the presence only at the bedside and clinical levels. However, the results of this study show that in artistic nursing care, the presence of nurses should be beyond these two levels. Artist nurses should creatively use their knowledge and experience to play a healing role and lead the patient to health.

Gramling also considers artistic nursing care as the art of constant presence, recognizing the patients' unique needs, intimacy, deep attention to detail during care, and respect for the patients' body (9). Karimollahi et al. and Gramling consider standard and comprehensive care equivalent to artistic nursing care, respectively, and they have not paid attention to the place of art in care defined. According to the current study, artistic care means creative use of knowledge, skills, experience, intuition, and available standard and comprehensive care facilities. In this way, the patients' unique needs are identified, and while creating a positive image of the patients' body leads to maintaining the patients' dignity.

Ashktorab et al. consider the subjective description, overt spirituality, opening desperate impasse, unity of feeling, and the manifestation of capabilities beyond duty as artistic nursing care (12). Opening a desperate impasse means making the patient happy during the care, and unity of feeling means unity and empathetic communication between the nurse and the patient, which is in line with the attribute of discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient. Capabilities beyond duty mean having a lot of patience

and forgiveness of the nurse, which is in line with manifesting love in caring behaviors in this study. In addition to the attributes mentioned by Ashktorab, this study shows that paying intuition attention to the patients' individuality to recognize all their needs, creating a positive image of the patients' condition, and creating opportunities for a healing presence are the other attributes of artistic nursing care.

Some theorists and researchers have looked at artistic nursing care only from an aesthetic point of view. For instance, Parker and Smith consider aesthetics a pattern of knowledge and states that aesthetics is interpretive, contextual, intuitive, and subjective and cannot be explained by existing theories and quantitative formulas (21). Aesthetics is a subjective branch of philosophy and refers to the nature of beauty (23). While providing artistic care in the present study is an objective and understandable task. It also focuses on the patient and emphasizes the patients' condition instead of the nurses. According to the results of this study, artistic nursing care emphasized creating a positive image of the patient's condition, discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient and for the patient, paying intuition attention to the patient individuality, and manifesting love in caring behaviors. Related terms have something in common with the concept but do not possess the same characteristics (14). Therefore, unlike most studies, the findings of this study show that aesthetics is not an attribute of artistic nursing care but is one of the related terms to this concept (7).

Some researchers have viewed artistic nursing care as an art term and introduced the creative use of artistic tools to establish a clinical relationship with patients and heal their bodies and souls as artistic nursing care. They stated that the art of nursing is storytelling, poetry, and art photography (21, 24). These studies have combined the use of artistic tools with artistic care. However, this study shows that artistic nursing care does not use conventional artistic tools and techniques in care but goes beyond that and is defined as

creative and standard care to pay attention to all human dimensions.

The concept of artistic care in nursing has similarities and differences with medical and clinical psychology disciplines. Unlike the medical and clinical psychology disciplines, the characteristics of creating a positive image of the patient's condition, manifesting love in caring behaviors, and creating opportunities for a healing presence were formed only in the nursing discipline. Because in nursing, nurses have a different presentation at the patients' bedside due to meaningful interactions and deep understanding of patients. The artist nurse's therapeutic presence goes beyond physical and even mental presence but is a creative, skillful, and healing presence. In this presentation, the nurse consciously pays attention to the patients' physical, mental and spiritual needs and performs the nursing care with compassion, empathy, love, and honesty. It establishes a meaningful mind-to-mind relationship with the patient to understand the patients' beliefs and burdens, communicates with them without judgment, and ultimately improves the patients' physical, mental, spiritual, hope health (22).

In the nursing discipline, "discovering a unique way to establishing a happy and integrated relationship with the patient" is similar to "establishing a relationship with patients," and "discovering the patient's needs and pain" in the medical discipline as well as "skill of understanding the visible and invisible needs" in clinical psychology. That is because, in all of the three disciplines, the human dimension of the patient has been given special attention (10, 19). "Paying intuition attention to the patient individuality to recognize all their needs" in the nursing discipline is similar to "knowing patient's specific needs" in medical discipline because both disciplines need a comprehensive understanding and attention to the patient (9).

### **Limitations**

In this study, just Persian and English language publications were analyzed.

Therefore, some important works in other languages might have been missed.

### **Conclusion**

According to the results of this study, attributes of artistic nursing included discovering a unique way to establish a happy and integrated relationship with the patient, paying intuition attention to the patient individuality to recognize all their needs, creating a positive image of the patient's condition, the manifestation of love in caring behavior, and creating opportunities for healing presence. This study provides a clear and comprehensive definition of this concept by eliminating the complex concepts related to artistic nursing care. The definition presented in this study can teach the methods of providing artistic nursing care to nurses and nursing students. Using these methods, the nurses could create a happy and integrated relationship with the patient, pay intuition attention to recognize all the patient needs, create a positive image of the patient's condition, take care of patients lovingly, and create a healing presence.

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### **Conflict of interest**

The author(s) declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article

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