

# QUERY AND THEORY

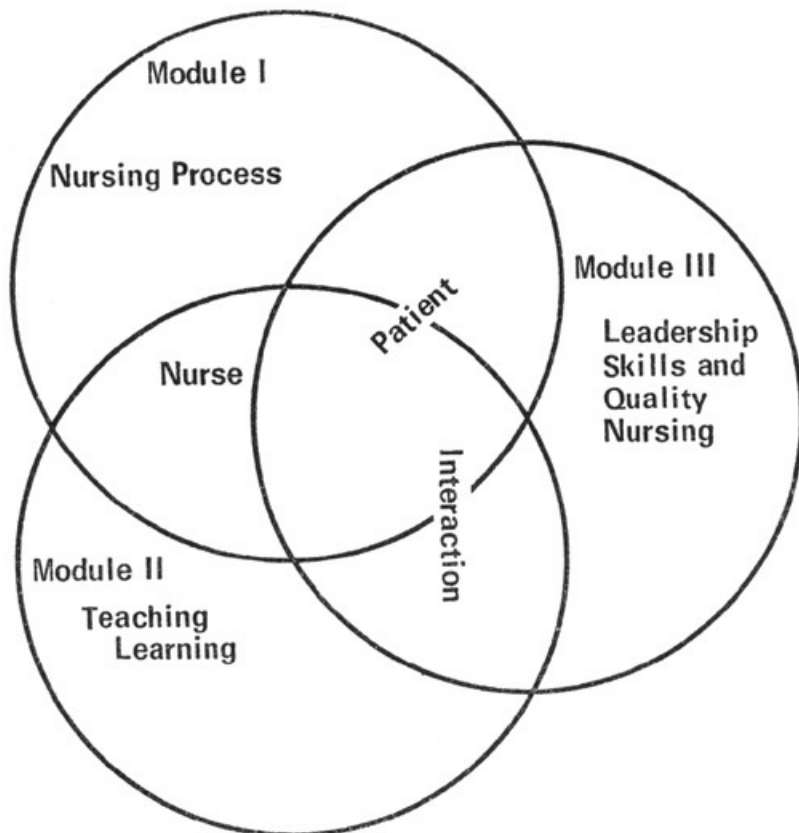
## QUERY

What is the content basis for teaching baccalaureate nursing students in a modular format?

## THEORY

The following model has been advanced by Thelma I. Potter, Assistant Professor, University of Western Ontario:

Schematic Interpretation of Modular  
Integration of Content



## QUERY

Activities for a patient on his first post-operative day include:

- Bathing
- Deep-breathing and coughing
- Walking

What plans have you found to be most effective in conserving the patient's energy so that he can walk a suitable distance several times during this day and also accomplish the other objectives set for him?

## QUERY

Two types of service are at present unavailable to the majority of individuals and families in any Canadian community:

1. comprehensive health care for families on a continuing basis
2. follow up and follow through of individuals and families after an illness or other type of crisis situation

Physicians are primarily concerned with prevention and treatment of illness and, for the most part, with a focus on the individual. Is the health of families on a continuing basis, — the development of healthful ways of living both at the level of the individual and of the family, of bringing up children to hold health practices which are constructive for their well being, individually and with the family and community, etc., a field which nursing might seriously enter? If we can answer in the affirmative we would not just approve this type of care in theory, but would undertake to develop, deliver and provide the service. Two major questions then arise:

1. Would we undertake to learn about health and behavior which leads to health and to take on questions of health as a field of research endeavor?

There is greater emphasis in our present day health services on development of the health of people as differentiated from the prevention and cure of diseases. Whereas disease can, to some extent, be justifiably treated as a state existing within the individual, health is basically a family phenomenon. And it is a family phenomenon of which relatively little knowledge has accrued in our society. We realize that the factors which prevent disease are not necessarily those which promote health and that knowledge and health are not necessarily related, however we are confounded by our inability to describe health and to define its attributes. We have even come to discard the notion of a continuum for health and illness and to view these as separate although closely related entities. Search for the characteristics of family health is a priority if nursing is to direct its practice to this end, particularly in primary health care.

2. Should nursing mount demonstrations on its own to show the potential of nursing in the provision of health services at the community level?

Should we explore and demonstrate our function in primary care: a group of prepared nurses taking full responsibility for their service and using other professionals on a referral basis or for consultant purposes?

Answers received by the editors to these questions will appear in the autumn issue. We welcome your ideas.