RURAL THEORY AND SYNERGY

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Purposes/Aims: The purpose of this presentation is to advance the Rural Nursing Theory in a way that it can be introduced into many differing environments within the healthcare continuum. Using this rationale, the application of the Rural Nursing Theory becomes a practical application when treating patients that identify as rural dwellers.

Description: The Synergy Model is very relevant to current nursing practice, and is already being utilized within many settings. The Rural Nursing Theory has been recently revised and works in congruence with the Synergy Model (as defined by the AACN) to meet the needs of rural Americans.

Internal consistency of the theory developed; concept analysis approach or process used: The Synergy Model creates an environment that easily assesses the patient and the nurse; it defines the relationship so individually it can be utilized in differing situations and so universally it can be adapted into different areas of nursing. Working in congruence with the Rural Nursing Theory, the Synergy Model illustrates the true value of great nursing care and the health continuum. To illustrate this idea, the theoretical statements from Rural Nursing, will be incorporated into the Synergy Model. These statements encompass the Rural Nursing Theory, and will correlate within the framework of the Synergy Model.

Logic linking the theory or concept to practice, research, or education: The Synergy Model is useful within the Rural Nursing Theory to further delineate rural nursing practice. The approach to the nursing metaparadigm described within the Synergy Model allows its use in any nursing situation.

Conclusions, including a statement about the utility of the theory or concept for rural health, rural practice, research, and/or education: This paper investigates the usage of the Synergy Model within the guidelines of the Rural Nursing Theory, thus introducing its usage beyond critical care and further defining rural nursing practice.