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In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. But, in practice, there is.

- Jan L. A. van de Snepscheut



# Background... why complete a concept analysis?



My thesis title is: An investigation into the effects of a theory-practice gap on student nurses' understanding of administering intramuscular injections







## **Concept analysis of T-P gap**



Rodgers' (2000) 'evolutionary' model

A tangible, metaphorical void.

Lack of integration of current research into clinical practice

Usually negative connotation- is that fair?



## (My) Definition of a T-P gap

'The gap between the theoretical knowledge and the practical application of nursing, most often expressed as a negative entity, with adverse consequences'



### Rodgers Evolutionary Model (2000)

### Rodgers' Evolutionary Model

- 1. Identify the concept of interest
- 2. Identify surrogate terms
- 3. Choose the setting and the sample
- 4. Identify the attributes
- 5. Identify the references, antecedents and consequences
- 6. Identify related concepts
- 7. Identify a model case
- 8. Identify implications for further research and development of the concept



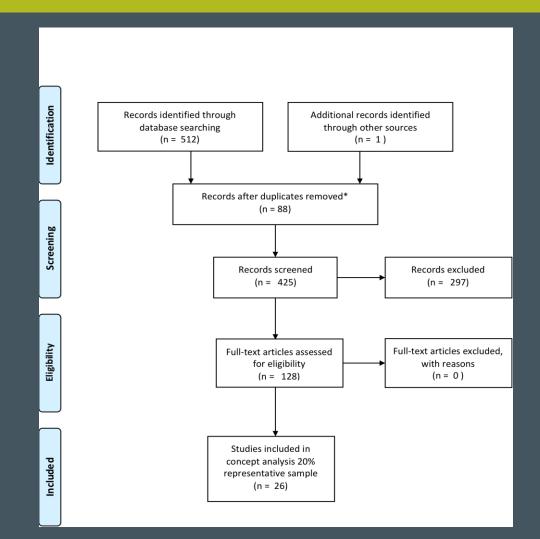
### Literature search

BNI, PUBMED, Medline, CINAHL, BEI – all searched from 2005-2016 and 512 papers returned.

Screened and final eligibility= 128
Literature review process is different:Sampling
20% of the sample (Rodgerian process)
n=26 included within this concept analysis



## **Literature review- results**





# Concept analysis of T-P gap

- Evidence-base practice
- Ritualistic practice
- Education & acquisition of nursing skills

Antecedents

#### Attributes

- Relational problems between university and clinical practice
- Practice fails to reflect theory
- Theory irrelevant to practice

- Influence on students and staff
- Need to promote collaboration between university and clinical practice

Consequences



## **Cognitive Dissonance**

Festinger's (1957) theory of cognitive Dissonance

What if anything are students doing to reduce any dissonance and achieve 'consonance'?

How do students actively avoid situations and experiences that might increase dissonance?



## How does understanding the T-P gap help us?

What educational strategies do we need to put in place to help students:

Recognise a gap

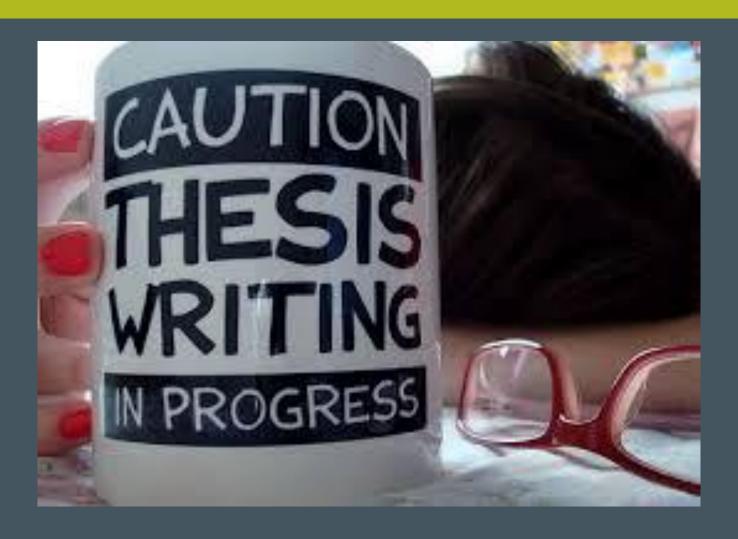
Challenge the gap

Support them if it negatively affects them

Curriculum changes?



## What am I doing now?





#### References

Festinger, L (1957) A Theory of Cognitive Dissonance, Tavistock, London

Rodgers, B (2000) 'Concept analysis and evolutionary view', In Rodgers, B and Knafl, K (eds) *Development in Nursing- Foundations, Techniques and Applications.* 2nd ed. Philadelphia: W B Saunders, pp77-100.

#### Suggested further reading:

Risjord, M (2009) 'Rethinking concept analysis', *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 65(3), pp 684-675.