**Westra, B. L., Bauman, R., Delaney, C. W., Lundberg, C. B. & Petersen, C. (2008).** [**Validation of concept mapping between PNDS and SNOMED CT**](../Documents/NOVA/DCTE%20750/Validation%20of%20Concept%20Mapping.pdf)**. *AORN Journal*, 87 (6), 1217-1229.**

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 Standardizing nursing terminologies is an important aspect of nursing care, including documentation in electronic health care records, investigation of best practices, and exchange of information between systems. The mapping of two large separate systems used in nursing, the PNDS (Perioperative Nursing Data Set) and SNOMED CT (Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine Clinical Terms), demonstrated good correlation between the systems for all to be able to “talk” to one another as well as be a good foundation for building other systems.

 No current system exists that summarizes the extensiveness of nursing practice in all settings or specialties. The standardization of terms as critical for retrieving information was not the sole aspect of this particular study; however, the standardization of terminology is important in retrieving any information from the electronic medical record (the database). Information retrieval is a critical aspect of the electronic medical record and based on the consistencies found in this mapping of the two largest nursing terminology systems, key terms can be identified and further refined for the nursing profession.

 Incorporating standardized data collection into electronic health care charting and then outlining the retrieval process is one of the research areas that requiring further attention. Having standardized terminology is the first step in being able to use that vast amount of information stored in an electronic health care record system to make changes in policy, process and ultimately in increasing the quality of care