As the official publication of NANDA International, it communicates efforts to develop, test, and implement standardized nursing labels in many different languages and cultures across the globe. This is the nursing journal that documents the science behind the labels. The journal keeps nurses around the world current on activities to include these terminologies in international databases that monitor and store health-related information.

In the 1970s, U.S. nurses started to work to establish and test labels to describe the conditions that nurses were empowered to diagnose and treat. Today, this work has expanded to include the development of standard labels to describe nursing interventions and outcomes, classifications specific to specialty areas, and efforts in many different countries.

While most nurses acknowledge the benefits of communicating the work of nursing using globally understood labels, the efforts to implement standardized language is being stimulated by mandates to implement electronic patient records and charting. Hospital and healthcare information systems that support these efforts require the use of standard labels. In return, these electronic systems can begin to provide concrete data regarding prevalence of diagnoses and interventions along with outcomes of care. This in turn allows healthcare facilities to analyze costs as they relate to nursing care.

The International Journal of Nursing Terminologies and Classifications publishes peer-reviewed articles and commentaries that promote worldwide development, discussion, refinement, classification, and use of nursing terminologies and classifications. Papers that have a sound theoretical or philosophical base and reflect the diversity, quality, and internationalism of nursing will be considered for publication. Content related to nursing diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes labels; concept analyses underlying the labels; and computer applications of standardized nursing language are suitable for submission.

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Key features:

- Scientific documentation of the validity of individual labels and the concepts underlying them
- Methodologies for development, testing, and classification of labels
- Computer applications of standardized nursing language
- Linguistic dilemmas involved in translating labels among different languages
- Educational ramifications of teaching and measuring critical thinking processes in students
- Expanded uses for standardized nursing languages across treatment settings and specialty areas.