

Review Article





Outcomes of Patient Education in Nurse-led Clinics: A Systematic Review

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Abstract

Introduction: Patient education is an independent role of nurses performed in nurse-led clinics (NLCs). The measurement of patient education outcomes validates whether nursing educational interventions have a positive effect on patients, which helps determine whether changes in care are needed. Standardized nursing terminologies facilitate the evaluation of educational outcomes. We aimed to explore the outcomes of patient education in NLCs based on the Nursing Outcome Classification (NOC) system.

Methods: The review was conducted according to PRISMA guidelines. We searched "Medline", "Embase", "Web of Science", and "Scopus" databases for articles published between 2000 and 2022. Based on the search strategy, 1157 articles were retrieved from PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, and Embase databases. After excluding the duplicates, 978 articles were appraised. 133 articles remained after reading the titles and abstracts of the articles. In the next step, the articles were evaluated regarding methodology, research population, and exclusion criteria, after which 112 articles were omitted, and finally, 21 articles were included in the full-text review. We assessed all included studies using the Quality Assessment of Controlled Intervention Studies checklist.

Results: A total of 21 randomized controlled trials met the inclusion criteria. "Physiologic health", "functional health", "psychosocial health", "health knowledge and behavior", and "perceived health" were the domains of nursing outcomes investigated as Patient Education Outcomes in NLCs.

Conclusion: Most of the outcomes were linked to lifestyle-related chronic diseases and, further studies are needed to determine the effects of patient education provided in NLCs in terms of family/society health outcomes.

Introduction

Nurse-led clinics (NLCs) were developed as a dynamic health care innovation¹ to play an advanced practice role for primary chronic disease management during the 1990s.² The integrated mind-body care provided by these services is accessible, affordable, high-quality, and patient-centered.¹ The aims behind introducing NLCs include cost reduction and better integration of the pathway of care from the acute to rehabilitative phase, particularly for shortening hospital stays.

Patient education is an independent role of nursing performed in NLCs. The measurement of patient education outcomes validates whether nursing educational interventions have a positive effect on patients, which helps determine whether changes in care are needed.³ Standardized nursing terminologies facilitate the evaluation of educational outcomes. A standard nursing terminology describes the clinical judgments nurses make based upon the assessment and selection of interventions and the outcome of the patient.⁴ A standard nursing terminology allows nurses to diagnose, intervene, and document patient outcomes with specificity,⁵ as well as examine the effectiveness of nursing interventions,⁶ Ensure nursing accountability and continuity of care.⁷ Nursing Outcome Classification (NOC) is one of the standard nursing terminology based on The American

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Nurses Association.^{4,5} An NOC was developed in 1991 as a comprehensive, standardized way to classify the outcomes of patients and clients. Specifically, it aims to assess the impact of nursing interventions in health care settings by nursing specialty.⁵ It is the most complete and comprehensive standard language currently designed to measure nursing intervention outcomes in patients.⁸ Despite growing evidence supporting the value of patient education in NLCs, no comprehensive synthesis of the evidence has been conducted. A previous review of NLCs revealed on health care delivery,⁹ care of cancer patients¹⁰ and early discharge,¹¹ and the overall evidence about outcomes of patient education in NLCs is limited. This review aimed to exploring the outcomes of patient education in NLCs based on NOC.

Materials and Methods

Protocol and Registration

Our systematic literature review was conducted according to the PRISMA guidelines.¹² We get the PROSPERO registration code (CRD42022346293).

Eligibility Criteria

The Population, Intervention, Comparison, Outcome, and Timeframe (PICOT(framework guided our literature search in order to ensure a comprehensive search strategy.¹³ In our search, we focused on patient education by nurses in NLCs (P) using patient education interventions (I). The comparison of interest (C) was education performed at the hospital for hospitalized patients. In terms of outcomes (O), it was postulated that reported outcomes could be categorized as the "identification of specific outcomes". We set a timeframe (T) for research published since 2000, which encompassed the last 22 years.

Information Sources

Two nurse researchers (ZP and FHN) independently searched four electronic databases, including Medline (via PubMed), Embase, Web of Science, and Scopus, to identify eligible publications. A literature search was conducted on January 1, 2022, and a final search was conducted on June 16, 2022.

Search

The search identified original articles. The search keywords were "nurse-led clinic, nursing clinic, public health departments, outpatient clinics, extended care facilities, health maintenance organizations, therapist-owned and -managed centers, wellness center, nurse, education, nursing classification system, and standardized nursing terminology" using AND/OR operators. We searched all combinations of terms from each category to find the target studies. References of the selected articles were also searched. An example of the search strategy was as follows:

(«Nurse-led clinic» OR «nursing clinic» OR «nurse-led

outpatient clinics» OR «public health departments» OR «outpatient clinics» OR «extended care facilities» OR «health maintenance organizations» OR «therapist-owned and -managed centers» OR «wellness center») AND (nurse) AND (education) AND («nursing classification system» OR «standardized nursing terminology»).

Study Selection

Two researchers (ZP and FHN) independently reviewed the titles and abstracts of the retrieved articles to find studies that met the inclusion criteria. The inclusion criteria consisted of (a) randomized controlled trials (RCTs), (b) publications in English (c) articles examining one or more nursing outcomes, (d) using a NLC as the research setting, and (e) performing the educational intervention on adults. The exclusion criteria consisted of (a) letters to editors, (b) non-intervention trials, and (c) studies in physicians' offices and clinics. We then retrieved the full texts of these studies and evaluated their eligibility. A third reviewer (NVZ) helped resolve disagreements regarding eligibility of studies.

Data Collection Process

Our team developed a sheet for data extraction. The data were extracted by two reviewers (ZP and FHN). There was a consensus reached between the reviewers if there were any disagreements, and data was included only if there was an agreement.

Data Items

To extract and summarize the information from the included studies, the reviewers conducted an indepth review including the title, author, year, setting, intervention, educational methods, educational materials, outcomes, NOC domain, NOC classes, and how outcomes were measured (Table 1).

Risk of Bias in Individual Studies

All studies were independently reviewed by two reviewers (ZP and FHN). Quality Assessment of Controlled Intervention Studies (QACIS) was applied to the studies as outlined in the Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP). An agreement was reached by referring to a third reviewer (NVZ) if scores differed.

Synthesis of Results

Two reviewers (ZP and FHN) synthesized and analyzed the data. The discrepancy between them was resolved by consensus, and only data that was agreed upon by both reviewers was included. An evidence synthesis with narrative-descriptive summaries and tables was prepared, which included the main outcomes and consistency of findings across studies. The sixth edition of the NOC system was used as the framework for data synthesis. This system consists of seven domains, 35 classes, and 540 outcomes. The seven domains include «functional

Table 1. Extracted data from the selected original studies

Author (year) country	Setting	Intervention	Educational methods	educational materials	Outcomes	NOC domain	NOC classes	How outcomes were measured
Reed et al ¹⁴ (2001) United Arab Emirates	Primary clinics	In clinics, nurse- physician teams developed and provided patient education programs. Its purpose was to motivate patients and provide them with support. Patients were also educated by two nutritionists at the three intervention clinics. The clinic nurse at each site provided diabetic education unrelated to diet as well.	Face to face	Not clear	HbA1c and FBG	Perceived health	Symptom status	The primary health care clinic noted three hba1c results within the relevant time period in its medical records.
					Determinations lipid levels	Health knowledge & behavior	Knowledge health condition	Frequency of blood lipid ordering and total cholesterol levels were the primary measures.
					Blood pressure	Health knowledge & behavior	Risk control	A systolic and diastolic blood pressure was recorded for each of the two study periods
					Patient knowledge of diabetes	Health knowledge and behavior	Knowledge health condition	Diabetes knowledge questionnaire
					Satisfaction with care	Perceived health	Satisfaction with care	4-Item questionnaire evaluating satisfaction with diabetes care
Canga et al ¹⁵ (2000) Spain	Primary care center and hospital	It included three components: a face- to-face interview, NRT, and follow-up support.	Face to face	Not clear	Urinary nicotine test	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	A comparison of patients treated with control subjects in terms of their smoking cessation rates. Validated cessation only (as measured by urine cotinine)
					The number of smoking and cessation	Health knowledge & behavior	Knowledge health condition	According to Prochaska's model, mean number of cigarettes smoked and stage of change
					Urine albumin creatinine ratio, serum HbA1c, cholesterol	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	HbA1c, cholesterol, and creatinine levels were measured in the laboratory, as well as the albumin creatinine ratio in the urine
		A protocol for treating and monitoring hypertension based on			target BP at the 1-year follow up	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	Physical examination
Bebb et al ¹⁶ (2007) United Kingdom	Primary care	British Hypertension Society (BHS) guidelines (1999). The protocol includes measures, monitoring, and treatment for practice nurses and general practitioners.	Discuss and counsel	Not clear	The proportion of participants with BP<140/80 mm Hg	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	Physical examination
					Mean systolic and diastolic BP	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	Physical examination
					Antihypertensive medication use by participants, drug class, and dosage	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	Physical examination
					Overall satisfaction with care	Perceived health	Satisfaction with care	Questionnaire about satisfaction with care

Table 1. Cor	Fable 1. Continued.								
Author (year) country	Setting	Intervention	Educational methods	educational materials	Outcomes	NOC domain	NOC classes	How outcomes were measured	
Dean et al ¹⁷ (2014) London	Nurse-led hypertension clinic	The intervention consisted of five stages, each of which had the potential to influence blood pressure. The nurse discussed the compliance of patients on anti-hypertensive medication when their blood pressure was over target. An in-hospital consultant physician with a special interest in hypertension then consulted with all patients.	Discussion	Not clear	Reduction in systolic blood pressure, reduction in diastolic pressure	Perceived health	Symptom status	Six general practitioners, four practice nurses, and a trained health care assistant independently measured and recorded blood pressure in two audits of computerized records.	
Khoshkesht et al ¹⁸ (2015) Iran	Outpatient clinic of Masih- Daneshvari Hospital	A mastery experience is necessary to motivate patients to follow rehabilitation programs and to perform pulmonary rehabilitation successfully. Following up with patients and answering their questions about the program was part of the gradual intensification of the rehabilitation process; verbal persuasion was used to reinforce training and ensure that both patients and researchers complied with the advice.	Face-to-face	Booklets	Self-efficacy	Health knowledge & behavior	Health management	CSES	
Efraimsson et al ¹⁹ (2008) Sweden	Intervention group patients received education on self-care and support based on their unique needs and abilities to cope with setting Quality of life Primary care setting disease and treatment during the intervention period. Patients' educational visits were tailored to their severity of illness, age, intellectual capacity, and lifestyle. Educational visits based on motivational dialogue Smoking	Intervention group patients received education on self-care			Quality of life	Perceived health	Health & life quality	SGRQ	
		Health knowledge & behavior	Health behavior	Questionnaire specifically developed for this study					
		severity of illness, age, intellectual capacity, and lifestyle.			Knowledge about COPD	Health knowledge & behavior	Health behavior	Questionnaire Specifically developed for this study	
Gallefoss & Bakke ²⁰ (2000) Norway	Pulmonary outpatient clinic at the Central Hospital	Provide specially designed brochure, two 2-hour group sessions. Both physiotherapy and nursing provided individual sessions of 40 minutes.	Group sessions (separate Groups for asthma and COPD)	Brochure	Patient satisfaction	Perceived health	Satisfaction with care	Patients answered a questionnaire	
Con La Harris	Dermatology outpatient department	The dermatology nurse specialist interviewed ermatology patients in the nurse tpatient follow-up group for 20 partment minutes in addition to their initial consultation with the dermatologist.	Interview with a dermatology nurse specialist for 20 minutes	Written instructions	Quality of life	Perceived health	Health & life quality	DLQI	
Gradwell et al ²¹ (2002) England					Patient knowledge	Health knowledge & behavior	Knowledge health condition	Specifically designed questionnaire	

Pouresmail et al

Table 1. Continued.								
Author (year) country	Setting	Intervention	Educational methods	educational materials	Outcomes	NOC domain	NOC classes	How outcomes were measured
de la Porte et al ²² (2007) Netherlands	HF Outpatient clinic	The intervention began with a telephone call after discharge from the hospital or referral from an outpatient clinic. The first (week 1) and second (week 3) visits in the HF clinic included patient diaries. Regular follow-up visits were conducted at weeks 5	Verbal Education	Written comprehensive Education	Blood/urine tests, cardiac enzymes, LVEF, chest radiographs	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	Plasma samples for neurohormone tests (NT-probnp) taken
					Health-related quality of life	Perceived health	Health & life quality	Rand Short Form 36 quality-of-life questionnaire
					Disease-specific Quality of life	Perceived health	Health & life quality	Minnesota Living with Heart Failure questionnaire
		and 7 and months 3, 6, 9 and 12, as well as a short physical exam.			Self-care behavior	Functional health	Self-care	European Heart Failure Self-Care Behavior Scale
Driscoll et al ²³ (2014) Australia	Specialist outpatient heart failure clinic	Titration by a nurse (NLT): Patients were reviewed by the nurse in the clinic on a weekly, fortnightly, or monthly basis until they reached the maximum effective dose after six months of treatment.	Not clear '	Not clear	By six months, the proportion of patients who have reached their target dose of beta- adrenergic receptor blocker.	Health knowledge & behavior	Health behavior	Consultation between the heart failure nurse and cardiologist
					Changes in general quality of life	Perceived health	Health and life quality	MLHFQ
					Changes in depressed mood	Psychosocial health	Psychological well-being	CDS score
Ortiz- Bautista et al ²⁴ (2019) Spain	Primary care center	Treatment is provided by the respective cardiologists as part of standard care. During the first visit, educational counseling was provided. Nurses reviewed and reinforced educational counseling with patients during follow- up visits, as well as up- titrated HF evidence- based drugs as needed.	Educational counseling	Not clear	Heart failure readmission	Perceived health	Health & life quality	Readmissions to hospitals were collected from medical records or during patient's follow-up visits
					(Quality of life related to health) MLHFQ improvement	Perceived health	Health & life quality	MLHFQ
Corones- Watkins et	NLC	Educating and assessing the patient took approximately 45-60 minutes. A psychosocial assessment was also conducted. Post- discharge education.	Visual and verbal methods	Not clear	Cardiac Self- Efficacy	Health knowledge & beha14 vior	Health management	CSE Scale
al ²⁵ (2019) Australia					Anxiety	Psychosocial health	Psychological well-being	STAI-T
/ dottaina					Depression	Psychosocial health	Psychological well-being	CDS
Hicks et al ²⁶ (2014) United Kingdom	Outpatient rapid access chest pair clinic	patient rapid ess chest pain ic base chest pain bic babase chest pain bic base chest p	Discussion	Pamphlet	Recruitment rate and process, proportion of patients Attending RACPC randomized	Physiologic health	Cardiopulmonary	Patient-reported 5-item reassurance questionnaire
					Anxiety and Depression	Perceived health	Symptom status	HADS

Table 1. Continued.								
Setting	Intervention	Educational methods	educational materials	Outcomes	NOC domain	NOC classes	How outcomes were measured	
Rheumatology Outpatient clinic	A printed copy of the slides and a CD copy of the program were given to participants in Group 1 who viewed the multimedia in the exam	Not clear	Multimedia, printed slides, CD copy of program, published literature about	Medication adherence	Health knowledge & behavior	Health behavior	Six-item MAQ	
				Illness perception	Physiologic health	Therapeutic response	BIPQ	
Five Hong Kong Hospital Authority	ter clinics intervention clinics	Telephone briefing and face-to-face intervention	Leaflets, Poster displays, and health education video	Vaccination rate	Health knowledge & behavior	Health behavior	The hospital authority CMS-recorded uptake rate Of PPV	
outpatient clinics				Self-efficacy to manage disease in general	Health knowledge & behavior	Health management	Questionnaire	
	Nurse-led counselling	Face to face	Booklets and Educational videos	Generic health status	Perceived Health	Health & Life Quality	Short-Form 36 (SF-36)	
	package: Counseling included information provision and psychological			Anxiety and depression	Psychosocial health	Psychological Well-Being	Hospital Anxiety and Depression questionnaire (HAD)	
Gastroenterology follow-up clinic	treatment. Educational videos and booklets were provided as sources of information. Stress management program 'Challenge of Change' was used as a psychological intervention.			Coping strategies	Psychosocial health	Psychological Adaptation	Styles and Strategies Questionnaire	
	Exercise and cognitive behavioral therapy. As requested, patients received online interventions each week at home or in the NLC. Those who consented to home visits and telephone motivational interviews twice a week were offered this service.	Face-to-face	Brochure timetable	Fatigue	Functional health	Energy maintenance	Mandarin Chinese version of the PFS	
Patient's place of residence or in the NLC				Depression	Psychosocial health	Psychological well-being	The Zung SDS	
				Sleep quality	Functional health	Energy maintenance	PSQI questionnaire	
Practice NLC in primary care	Nursing staff provided participants with general lifestyle advice for reducing fracture risk as well as cholecalciferol (vitamin D3) and 1000 mg of calcium (calcium carbonate) as two tablets daily. Both the intervention and control groups received leaflets.	Face to face	Leaflet	Clinical fractures	Physiologic Health	Tissue Integrity	A questionnaire	
				Quality of life	Perceived health	Health & life quality	12 item short-form health survey questionnaire (SF-12)12 and the European quality of life instrument (EuroQol)	
				Adherence	Health knowledge & behavior	Health behavior	Self-report	
				Falls	Health knowledge & behavior	Risk control	Simple six-point Likert scale	
				Fear of falling	Psychosocial health	Fear self-control	Simple six point Likert scale	
Specialist nurse- led clinics	Nurses provided clinics for participants every 4–6 weeks until targets were achieved. The titration of drug therapies was based on local guidelines for lifestyle advice and drug therapy titration.	Face to face	Not clear	Based on generalized linear model, increased proportion of patients achieving either intervention's targets	Perceived health	Symptom status	Physical examination	
				Individual changes in hypertension and cholesterol	Physiologic Health	Metabolic Regulation	Physical examination	
	Setting Setting Rheumatology Outpatient clinic Five Hong Kong Hospital Authority West Cluster outpatient clinics Gastroenterology follow-up clinic Patient's place of residence or in the NLC Practice NLC in primary care Specialist nurse- led clinics	SettingInterventionSettingA printed copy of the slides and a CD copy of the program were given to participants in Group 1 who viewed the multimedia in the exam room on computers.Five Hong Kong Hospital AuthorityTwo components of the health education intervention were conducted based on pragmatic approach: a telephone intervention and a face-to-face intervention.GastroenterologyNurse-led counselling package: Counseling included information provision and psychological treatment. Educational videos and booklets were provided as sources of information. Stress management program 'Challenge of Change' was used as a psychological interventions each week at home or in the NLCPatient's place of residence or in the NLCExercise and cognitive behavioral therapy. As requested, patients received online interventions each week at home or in the NLC. Those who consented to home visits and telephone motivational interviews twice a week were offered this service.Practice NLC in primary careNursing staff provided participants with general lifestyle advice for reducing fracture risk as well as cholecalciferol (vitamin D3) and 1000 mg of calcium (calcium carbonate) as two tablets daily. Both the intervention and control groups received leaflets.Specialist nurse- led clinicsNurses provided clinics for participants every 4-6 weeks until targets were achieved. The tiration of drug therapies was based on local guidelines for lifestyle advice and on local guidelines for lifestyle advice and intervention and control groups received leaflets.	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Those who consented to home visits and telephone motivitional interviews twice a week were offered this service.Face to faceBrochure timetablePractice NLC in primary careNursing staff provided participants with general lifestyle acholecalciferol time direction and calcium cachonate as two tablets daily. Both the intervention and control groups received laftest.Face to faceLeafletPractice NLC in primary careNurses provided calcium cachonate as two tablets daily.	Setting Intervention Educational methods cducational materials cducational materials Outcomes Rheumatology Outpatient clinic A printed copy of the program were given to participants in Group Not clear 1 who viewed the multimedia in the exam room on computers. Multimedia, printed side, program computers. 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Table 1. Continued.								
Author (year) country	Setting	Intervention	Educational methods	educational materials	Outcomes	NOC domain	NOC classes	How outcomes were measured
Visser et al ³³ (2015) Netherlands	Outpatient clinic	CNS-led education and the information Leaflet.	Verbal information	Leaflets	Patient Satisfaction	Perceived health	Satisfaction with care	A scale of 1 (not satisfied at all) to 5 (very satisfied) was used to rate satisfaction with the education
					Frequency of BSE	Functional health	Self-care	a question was asked about self-examination frequency at that time. ('Never,' 'sometimes', once every three months or less), 'regularly' (once a month), and 'often' (more than once a month).
Brouwer- Goossensen et al ³⁴ (2022) Netherland		Motivational interviewing or Standard counseling:			Lifestyle behavior change		Health behavior	IPAQ-S questionnaire/short FFF ſ
	Outpatient clinic	Motivational interviewing consisted of three 15-minute visits in 3 months by a motivational interviewing trained nurse practitioner. Patients in the standard counselling group received standard consultation after 1 and 3 months by a nurse practitioner.	Educational counseling	Not clear	Self-efficacy	Health knowledge & behavior	Health management	Self-efficacy scale

Note: HbA1c, glycated hemoglobin; FBG, fasting blood glucose NRT, nicotine replacement therapy; BP, blood pressure; CSES COPD Self efficacy Scale; SGRQ, St. George's Respiratory Questionnaire; MLHFQ Minnesota Living with Heart Failure Questionnaire; CDS, Cardiac Depression Scale; NLC, Nurse-led clinic; CSE, Cardiac Self-Efficacy; STAI-T, State Trait Anxiety Inventory; HADS, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale; MAQ, Medication Self-Assessment Questionnaire; BIPQ, Brief Illness Perception Questionnaire; CMS, clinical management system; PFS, Piper Fatigue Scale; SDS, Self-Rating Depression Scale; PSQI, Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index; IPAQ-S, International Physical Activity Questionnaire short; FFF, Food Frequency Questionnaire; LVEF, left ventricular ejection fraction; DLQI, Dermatology Life Quality Index.

health», «physiologic health», «psychosocial health», «health knowledge and behavior», «perceived health», «family health», and «community health».⁸ The outcomes were classified based on the domains and classes of NOC. For example, anxiety was assigned to the psychological well-being class and the psychosocial health domain.

Results

Study Selection

Based on the search strategy, 1157 articles were retrieved from Pubmed, Scopus, Web of Science, and Embase databases. After excluding the duplicates, 978 articles were appraised. With the further exclusion of 845 articles, 133 articles remained after reading the titles and abstracts of the articles. In the next step, the articles were evaluated regarding methodology, research population, and exclusion criteria, after which 112 articles were omitted, and finally, 21 articles were included in the fulltext review (Table 1). No relevant articles were found in the references of the studies by a manual search. Finally, this review included 21 RCTs that met the inclusion and exclusion criteria after conducting a study-relevant analysis. PRISMA flowchart shows the search strategy and selection process (Figure 1).³⁵

Risk of Bias within Studies

Table 2 presents the results of the quality assessment. A study that examined the quality assessment components and ratings of the EPHPP instrument.³⁶ Quality ratings were generally acceptable for the study reports used.

Characteristics of patient

Finally, 21 articles were reviewed. The target groups included patients with diabetes,¹⁴⁻¹⁷ patients with chronic lung diseases including asthma and COPD,¹⁸⁻²⁰ patients with skin diseases,²¹ patients with cardiovascular diseases,^{17,22-25} patients with chest pain,²⁶ patients with arthritis,²⁷ the elderly with chronic diseases,²⁸ patients with irritable bowel disease (IBD((ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease),²⁹ adults with ovarian cancer,³⁰ Hip fracture risk factors in women over 70,³¹ patients with raised blood pressure or raised total cholesterol,³² patients at risk of breast cancer,³³ and patients with strock.³⁴

The domain of NOC that examined in NLC were "functional health", "Physiologic health", "Psychosocial health", "Health knowledge & behavior" and "Perceived health" (Figure 2).

The functional health domain describes outcomes relating to the performance of basic life activities and the capacity to perform them, functional health has 4 classes (Energy maintenance, growth and development, mobility and self-care). The outcomes investigated in the "energy maintenance" class included fatigue and sleep quality.³⁰

The frequencies of Breast Self-Examination (BSE)³³ and self-care behavior²² were the outcomes examined in the "self-care" class.

Physiologic health domain explains outcomes that describe organic functioning and consist of 10 classes (cardiopulmonary, digestion & nutrition, elimination, fluid & electrolyte, immune response, metabolic regulation, neurocognitive, sensory function, therapeutic response and tissue integrity). In the "cardiopulmonary" class, the examined outcomes were cardiac enzymes,²² left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF),²² lipid levels,^{14,16}

Table 2. Effective Public Health Practice Project (EPHPP) quality assessment tool for included studies

Authors/ Year	Selection bias	Study design	Confounders	Blinding	Data collection methods	Withdrawals and drop-outs
Reed et al ¹⁴ 2001	3	2	2	3	2	3
Canga et al ¹⁵ 2000	2	1	1	2	2	3
Bebb et al ¹⁶ 2007	1	2	1	2	2	1
Dean et al ¹⁷ 2014	2	1	2	2	2	3
Khoshkesht et al ¹⁸ 2015	2	3	1	3	1	3
Efraimsson et al ¹⁹ 2008	1	2	1	3	1	1
Gallefoss & Bakke 2000 ²⁰	2	2	2	2	3	2
Gradwell et al ²¹ 2002	2	1	2	2	2	2
de la Porte et al ²² 2007	2	1	2	3	3	2
Driscoll et al ²³ 2014	1	1	1	3	2	1
Ortiz-Bautista et al ²⁴ 2019	2	1	1	2	3	3
Corones-Watkins et al ²⁵ 2019	2	1	2	2	1	3
Hicks et al ²⁶ 2014	2	1	2	2	1	3
Unk & Brasington et al ²⁷ 2014	2	3	1	3	1	1
Chan et al 2015 ²⁸	2	1	1	2	3	3
Smith et al ²⁹ 2002	2	3	3	3	2	3
Zhang et al ³⁰ 2018	2	1	1	1	1	1
Porthouse et al ³¹ 2005	2	2	1	3	2	3
NEW et al ³² 2003	2	2	1	2	3	2
Visser et al ³³ 2015	2	2	1	3	3	2
Brouwer-Goossensen et al ³⁴ 2022	2	2	1	2	3	3







Figure 2. Outcomes of patient education in nurse-led clinics based on NOC

hypertension,¹⁴ chest radiographs,²² urinary nicotine test results,¹⁵ chest pain²⁶ and blood/urine test results.^{16,22} The perception of disease²⁷ was considered the studied outcomes in the "therapeutic response" class. The change achieved in the individual hypertension and cholesterol interventions, the analyses of the continuous measures, and all-cause mortality Hyperlipidemia hypertension³² was examined outcomes in metabolic regulation classes and clinical fracture³¹ was outcome in the tissue integrity.

Psychosocial health domain explains outcomes that describe psychological and social functioning and consist of 4 Classes (psychological well-being, psychological adaptation, self-control and social interaction). The outcomes investigated in the "psychological well-being" class included anxiety^{25,26} and depression.^{25,26,29,30} In the "psychological adaptation" class, the outcome was the coping strategies²⁹ and fear of falling³¹ was the outcome in the fear self-control classes.

Outcomes that describe attitudes, comprehensions, and actions related to health and illness are described by the Health Knowledge & Behavior domain. This domain Consist of 7 classes (Health Behavior, Health Beliefs, Health Management, Knowledge Health Condition, Knowledge Health Promotion, Risk Control and Safety). The outcomes of the "health knowledge and behavior" domain were investigated in four classes of "health behavior", "health management", "knowledge health condition" and "risk control". Besides, the "health behavior" outcomes included drug consumption and pharmaceutical compliance,^{23,26,27} lifestyle behavior change³⁴ and vaccination rate.²⁸ The outcome investigated in the "health management" class was self-efficacy,18,25,34 cardiac self-efficacy²⁵ and self-efficacy to manage disease in general.28 The outcome examined in the "knowledge health condition" class were patients' knowledge,^{14,19,21} the number of smoking and cessation times,^{15,19} determinations lipid levels.¹⁴ The outcome examined in the "risk control" class were blood pressure¹⁴ and falls.³¹

The Perceived Health domain consists of three classes (Health & Life Quality, Satisfaction with Care, and Symptom Status) describing the health and health care experiences of individuals. Outcome of health and quality of life class consist of the life quality,^{19,21,22,24,31} generic health status,²⁹ and heart failure readmission.²⁴ patients' satisfaction,^{14,16,20,33} in satisfaction with care classes. Glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) and fasting blood glucose (FBG),¹⁴ anxiety and depression,²⁶ reduction in systolic & diastolic blood pressure,¹⁷ the proportion of patients who achieve the specified goals for either intervention³² were outcome in symptom status classes (Figure 2).

Discussion

The purpose of our systematic review was to determine the nursing outcomes related to patient education in NLCs based on the NOC. The "physiologic health", "functional health", "psychosocial health", "health knowledge and behavior", and "perceived health" were the domains of nursing outcomes investigated as patient education outcomes in NLCs. Besides, "self-care", "energy maintenance", "mobility", "cardiopulmonary", "therapeutic responses", "psychological well-being", "psychological adaptation", "health behaviors", "health management", "knowledge health condition", "health and life quality", "satisfaction with care", and "symptom status" were the classes of nursing outcomes investigated as patient education outcomes in NLCs.

According to the findings of our review study, most of the outcomes investigated in the studies conducted in NLCs were associated with the outcomes of lifestylerelated chronic diseases. The nursing profession is in direct contact with society; therefore, it provides services for the community and can gain public trust by providing safe, effective, and accessible services. Nursing as a developing profession needs to document the effectiveness of its services.³⁷

As a result of the present study and access to outcomes such as smoking cessation, self-care, cardiac diseases and diabetes, and patient's quality of life by the nurses of NLCs demonstrate that the nursing profession contributes to providing effective and accessible services for critical health problems of society.^{38,39} In this regard, a systematic review revealed that the outcomes relevant to hypertension, quality of life, and patient satisfaction in nurse-led primary care centers were better than the outcomes in centers managed by physicians.⁴⁰

According to the findings of our systematic review, in addition to the physical outcomes examined as educational outcomes in NLCs, some outcomes such as anxiety, depression, and coping strategies were investigated in the psychological health domain. However, most patients, especially cancer patients,41 hemodialysis patients,42 patients needing surgery,43 and other groups of patients may experience psychological problems, along with physical illnesses. Accordingly, the examination of and attention to the psychological health domain and development of its variables by the nurses of outpatient centers can contribute to the comprehensiveness and specificity of the nursing outcomes measured in patient education. Therefore, the limitation in outcomes measured in the psychological health domain is considered one of the gaps in investigations conducted on nursing outcomes in NLCs.

According to the findings of our review, less publication about outcomes of the family and society health domain is considered one of the existing gaps in investigations performed on the outcomes of NLCs. The non-evaluated outcomes in the reviewed investigations include caregiver role endurance, caregiver stressors, caregiver emotional health, family coping, parenting performance, community disaster readiness, and community health screening effectiveness. However, nowadays, family and society play a crucial role in home-care due to the population aging and the spread of lifestyle-related chronic diseases^{44,45} so that the contemporary society requires human resources for health⁴⁶ and medical and nursing services to provide home-care services.^{47,48} Thus, it requires further study to best understand what it is the nurse may be teaching in these domains.

Satisfaction was one of the outcomes evaluated in the reviewed studies, which was expressed as general satisfaction, care satisfaction, and educational satisfaction. General satisfaction is a complex set encompassing various factors and requiring the examination of several aspects of services. As this outcome is affected by a complex set of factors, it produces a bias in answering and interpreting. However, satisfaction is considered an important indicator of healthcare quality.^{49,50} Therefore, patients' satisfaction with services is also investigated in relation to the type of service.⁵¹ One of the dimensions of evaluating satisfaction is to determine patients' satisfaction with the education provided by nurses. Only one of the studies on nursing outcomes in NLCs evaluated the patients' satisfaction with education. The study reported that patients' satisfaction with the education provided by nurses was related to BSE.⁵² To improve patient satisfaction, healthcare providers need to be responsive to patients' concerns.^{53,54} Therefore, patients' satisfaction with the provided care or education may serve as a specific indicator to determine service efficacy at the initial stages of evaluation.

One of the interesting points among studies on the nursing outcomes of patient education in NLCs was the implementation of patient education as teamwork in most outpatient nursing clinics. A nurse's care is unique among health professions, and patient education has long been viewed as a priority. In the mid-1800s, nurses were recognized as caregivers who had responsibility for patient education. In early 1993, The Joint Commission (TJC) developed nursing standards for patient education. Later, patient education activities were recommended to other care providers,55 and as part of TJC's patient education efforts, an interdisciplinary team approach was taken, meaning that patient education is an interdisciplinary team process.56 Thus, it is expected that educational services provided by nurses at nursing clinics follow an interdisciplinary approach.

The reviewed investigations indicated that in-person education methods (individually or in groups) were most commonly used at outpatient NLCs, and non-attendance education was only limited to telephone contacts with patients. Due to modern technological developments, educational methods used in clinics change based on the needs of societies so that non-attendance education can employ iBook,⁵⁷ computer and tablet-based education at home,⁵⁸ software-based education,⁵⁵ game-based⁵⁹ and simulation based education,⁶⁰ which can effectively promote patients' knowledge.^{55,56}

Despite the exhaustive electronic search, our study had several limitations. First, the limited number of the studies selected by the reviewers did not include grey literature. Second, the retrieved studies were limited to those published in English journals.

Third, lack of specificity of actual material taught and how outcomes of teaching were measured in some of the studies. Fourth, time frame in which outcomes were measured was variable. Fifth, only evaluated teaching/ patient education conducted in English.

Conclusion

According to the conducted search, the increasing diversity of recent investigations in the context of patient education and in the areas of educational methods, media, and patient groups is helpful in the development of patient education; thus, it is necessary to consider the evaluation of education, especially concerning patient outcomes. According to our findings, further studies are needed to determine the effects of patient education provided in NLCs in terms of family/society health outcomes.

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Authors' Contribution

Conceptualization: Zohre Pouresmail, Fatemeh Heshmati Nabavi. **Data curation:** Zohre Pouresmail, Najmeh Valizadeh Zare.

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Competing Interests

The authors declare no conflict of interest in this study.

Ethical Approval

The Ethics Committee of Mashhad University of Medical Science, Mashhad, Iran, approved this project and assigned it the number "IR.MUMS.NURSE.REC.1398.057.

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Research Highlights

What is the current knowledge?

In NLCs, patient education is a distinct role of nursing. Care changes are determined by outcome measurement. NLCs have been found to be effective in the delivery of health care, particularly in the context of cancer patient care and early discharges. There is a scarcity of empirical information about the impact of NLCs on patient outcomes.

What is new here?

Most of the outcomes investigated in NLCs were linked to lifestyle-related chronic diseases.

The psychological health domain also examined as educational outcomes in NLCs.

Further research is needed to determine how NLCs influence family/society health outcomes.

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