



The ARUP Framework for Sustainable Nursing Innovation: A Conceptual Model for Transforming Healthcare Systems

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Abstract:

Purpose: The growing need for high-quality patient care, resource constraints, environmental concerns, and technological breakthroughs have made sustainable healthcare a global issue. This paper introduces the ARUP Framework, comprising Adaptation, Regeneration, Utilization, and Preservation, as a comprehensive concept integrating nursing innovation and healthcare sustainability.

Methods: This study adopts a conceptual framework development based on a PRISMA 2020-guided systematic literature review between 2000 and 2026, which was retrieved from Scopus, Web of Science, PubMed, ScienceDirect, Google Scholar, and other relevant sources. Following systematic screening and thematic synthesis, 60 eligible studies were included in the development of the ARUP framework. The framework is grounded in three complementary theoretical perspectives: Diffusion of Innovations Theory, Socio-Technical Systems Theory, and the Triple Bottom Line approach.

Findings: The ARUP Framework synthesizes these perspectives into an integrated model that connects nursing innovation capabilities with sustainable healthcare outcomes. The framework delineates four interdependent dimensions of sustainable nursing innovation: Adaptation, which addresses responsiveness to technological and environmental changes; Regeneration, which emphasizes workforce resilience, leadership, and organizational learning; Utilization, which advocates for efficient resource use through evidence-based and technology-enabled practices; and Preservation, which prioritizes patient safety, environmental stewardship, ethical practice, and long-term healthcare sustainability. Collectively, these dimensions are anticipated to enhance healthcare quality, resource efficiency, organizational resilience, environmental performance, and patient outcomes. The ARUP Framework presents a novel, nursing-specific sustainability model that advances existing healthcare innovation literature by integrating environmental, organizational, technological, and clinical perspectives within a unified conceptual framework, establishing a theoretical basis for future empirical validation and providing practical guidance for healthcare leaders, nurse managers, educators, researchers, and policymakers aiming to embed sustainability within nursing practice and healthcare delivery.

Keywords:

Sustainable Healthcare, Nursing Innovation, Adaptation, Regeneration, Utilization, Preservation, Environmental Sustainability, Healthcare Management, Digital Health, Organizational Resilience.