Advancing a Thai Model of Nursing Practice: Nurses in Thailand Describe their Practice and Reflect their Culture

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Abstract
This paper presents thematic analysis of data from a study in which 263 Thai nurses in four regions throughout the country described their practice of nursing. Findings reflect the philosophy and culture of nursing in Thailand and include major themes that may lead to articulation of a Thai Model of Nursing Practice. Illustrations from the data are included. The preliminary conception of Nursing Practice in Thailand is presented. The paper includes a brief overview of the design of the four stage study to create a Thai Model of Nursing Practice from the perspective of Thai nurses. The paper focuses on the findings of Phase I of the study.

Introduction
Nursing in Thailand has been influenced by western, mostly American, models of practice, education, and scholarship. The Thai government has offered extraordinary financial support for education of Thai nurses in the west. Many Thai nursing faculties have earned the PhD in nursing over the last 20 years, and many more have received the master's degree in nursing from universities in the United States. Today with the majority

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