NURSING KNOWLEDGE
BIG DATA SCIENCE (NKBDS) INITIATIVE

VISION

We share a vision of better health outcomes resulting from the standardization and integration of the data and information nurses gather in electronic health records and other technologies and systems, which is increasingly the source of insights and evidence used to prevent, diagnose, treat and evaluate health conditions. The addition of contextual data, including environmental, geographical, behavioral, imaging, and more, will lead to breakthroughs for the health of individuals, families, communities and populations.
By 2013, big data activities were exploding in all fields, including health care. However, nursing found itself on the outside looking in.

The University of Minnesota School of Nursing invited nurse leaders to address obstacles to achieving sharable and comparable nursing data.

Over 40 nurse leaders and informaticians attended the inaugural meeting.

Participants included health system leaders, electronic medical record vendors, educators, researchers, and informaticians.

Priorities were identified and structured into Work Groups with defined goals to be completed by the next annual meeting.

All participants agreed that nursing data must be codified in universally-accepted, standardized terminologies in order to be included in big data research.

The group decided to align with the professional nursing informatics communities of AMIA and HIMSS and to adopt SNOMED CT and LOINC as standardized terminologies.

Starting in 2014, additional attendees were invited to the annual meeting/conference.

The conference:

- Has grown in number of participants and in the breadth and depth of the discussions, topics, and Work Group activities.
- Includes pre-conference educational tracks, plenary sessions, Working Group meetings, goal setting, accomplishment sharing, and networking.

Work Groups:

- Include volunteers, led by a chair and/or co-chairs, that focus on specific topics.
- Meet virtually throughout the year at a time and frequency convenient for its members in order to complete their objectives.
- Welcome all interested individuals to join in and participate!