

**ABSTRACT 006****Category: Nursing Diagnosis****TITLE: Additional recommended nursing diagnoses deemed necessary****AUTHORS:** Kaufman, C. & Endy, A.**FRAMEWORK**

The nursing process is routinely utilized by registered nurses, whether caring for individuals in acute care, outpatient/ambulatory care, or a home care setting. Nurse Life Care Planners (NLCPs) use a consistent methodology known as the nursing process to formulate a lifetime nurse care plan for individuals who have a catastrophic injury and/or chronic illness with ongoing healthcare needs. The Life Care Plan (LCP) includes the recommended items and services with associated costs throughout an individual's life expectancy. The LCP is based on the individual's health problems, prevention of complications, and/or readiness for health promotion. The LCPs are used in many venues including civil litigation involving personal injury, general liability, medical malpractice, reserve setting, discharge planning, case management, conservatorship/guardianship, trust fund establishment, workers compensation, and structured settlement to name a few.

**METHODS**

While NLCPs follow a consistent methodology when preparing a LCP, there is often a lack of available nursing diagnoses to represent the NLCP's assessment and identification of functional impairments. The nursing diagnoses recommended for consideration by NANDA International include those necessary for individuals suffering from neuro-fatigue, vestibular disturbance, and an alteration in sensory functions including vision, hearing, taste and smell. In addition, personal safety issues due to lack of supervision at home, cognitive deficits, and risk for depression require specific nursing diagnoses.

**DISCUSSION AND IMPACT**

Life Care Plans are often used as a teaching tool to help caregivers provide evidence-based quality care. New nursing diagnoses which identify these impairments would provide better communication of an individual's current functional difficulties in daily living, and the recommended healthcare needs throughout their lifetime.