

Clinical and relational skills of the nephrology and dialysis nurse

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Background & Aim

Chronic kidney disease represents a significant global public health issue, with a continuously growing prevalence

To manage the complex physical, social, and psychological needs of patients affected by CKD, long-term multidisciplinary care is necessary

In this context, the nephrology and dialysis nurse plays a key role in patient care, providing assistance during various stages of the disease, from pre-dialysis to transplantation, and operating across diverse care settings.

Nurses should demonstrate adequate clinical competencies and relational skills to enhance the quality of life and clinical outcomes of patients

AIM

Identify and define the **clinical and relational competencies** of nephrology nurses across various specialized care contexts to establish a standardized framework of **skills applicable to multiple clinical settings** by analyzing the available international literature.

Methods



Scoping Review reported according to the PRISMA ScR Guidelines.

Research Question [PIO]

P = nephrology nurse;

I = identifying clinical and relational skills;

O = defining skills and operational contexts

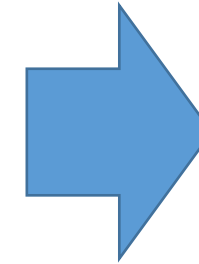
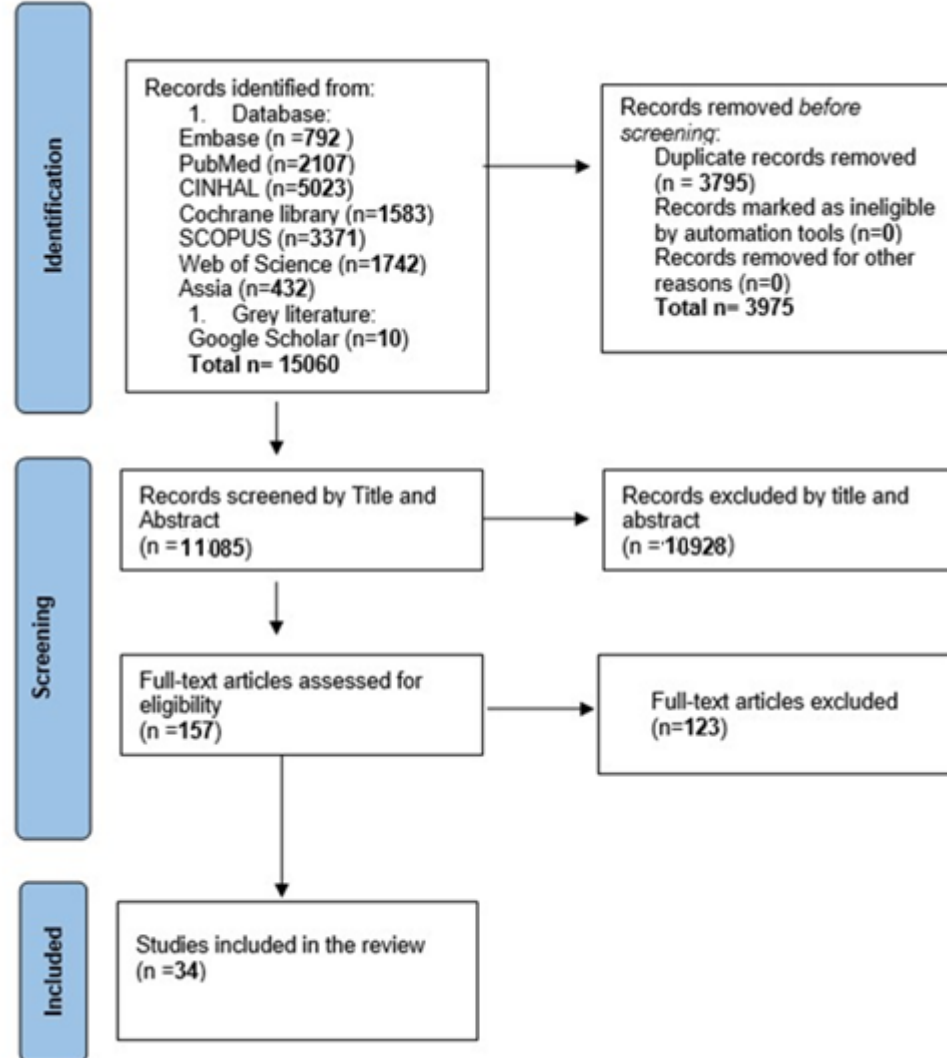
Databases: Pubmed-Medline, Scopus, Cochrane Library, ASSIA, CINAHL and Grey Literature.

Inclusion Criteria: primary and secondary studies on nephrology nurses' profiles and competencies, available in full text.

Exclusion Criteria: book chapters, editorials, and studies not focused on nephrology nurse

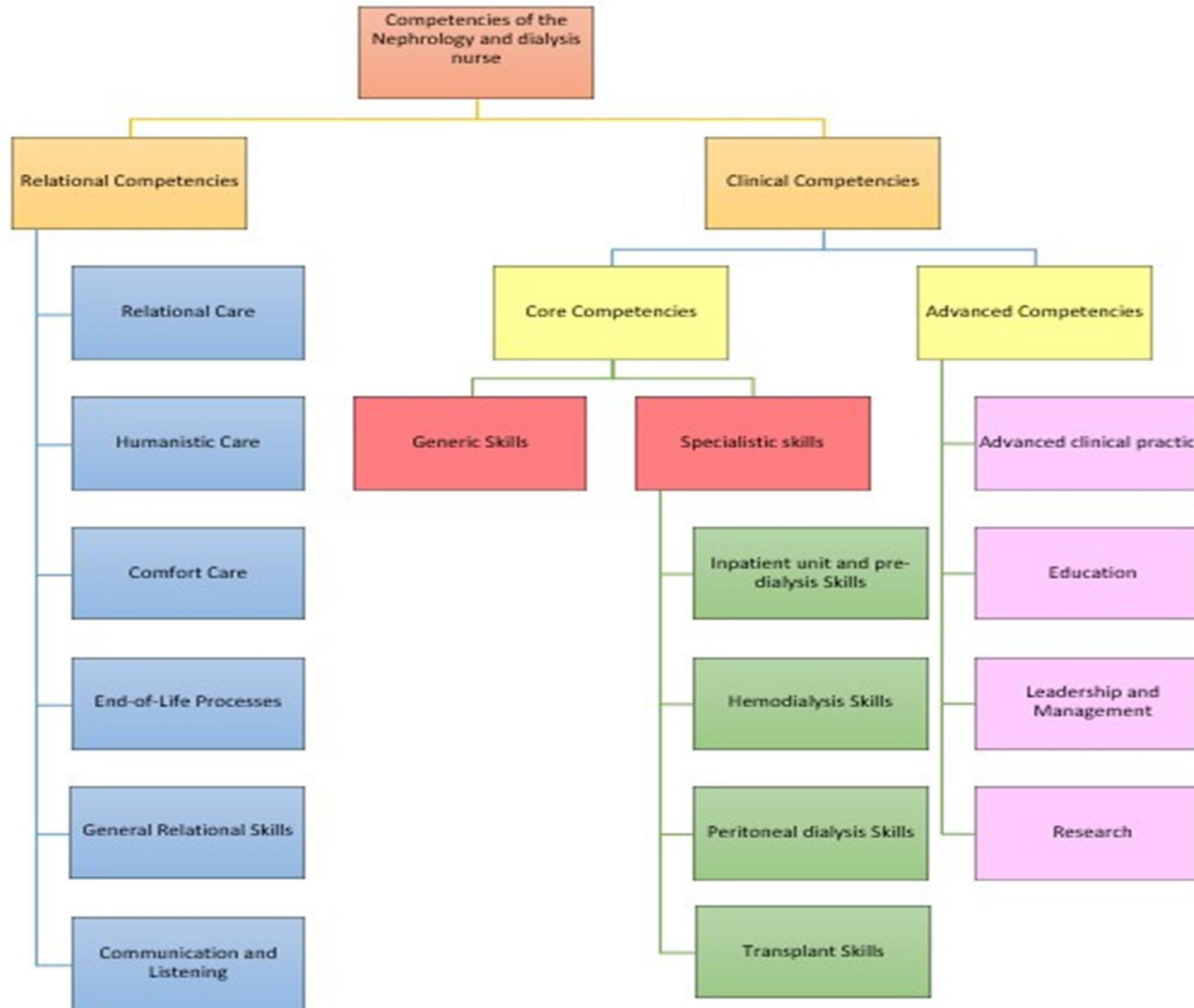
Evaluation Quality/Bias: JBI Critical Appraisal Tools

Results

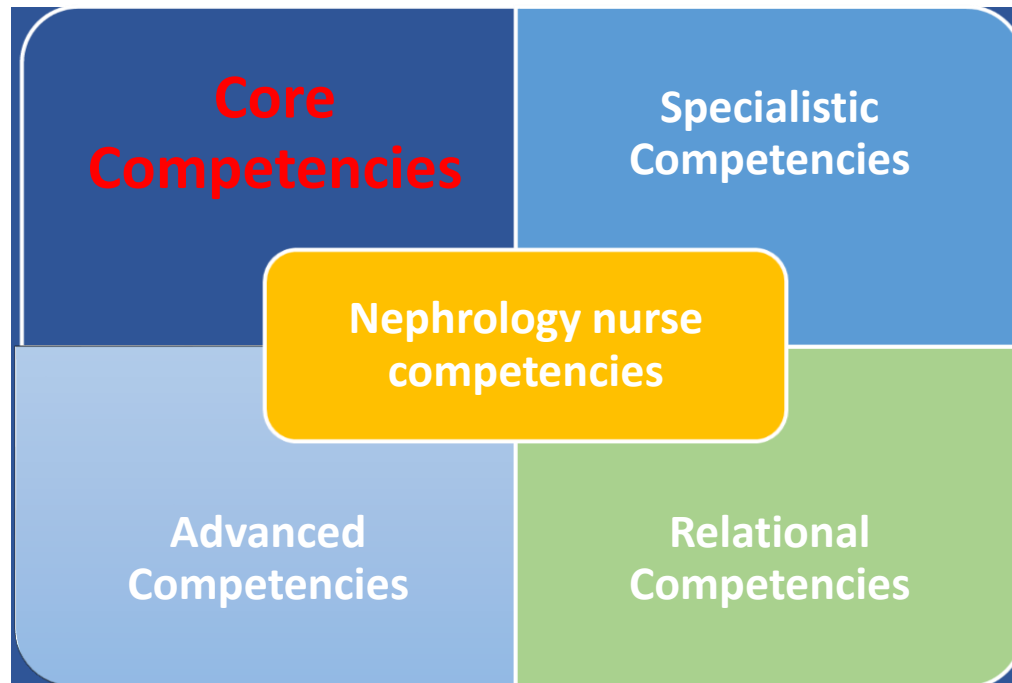


- **Competencies**
- **Clinical setting of application**

Results

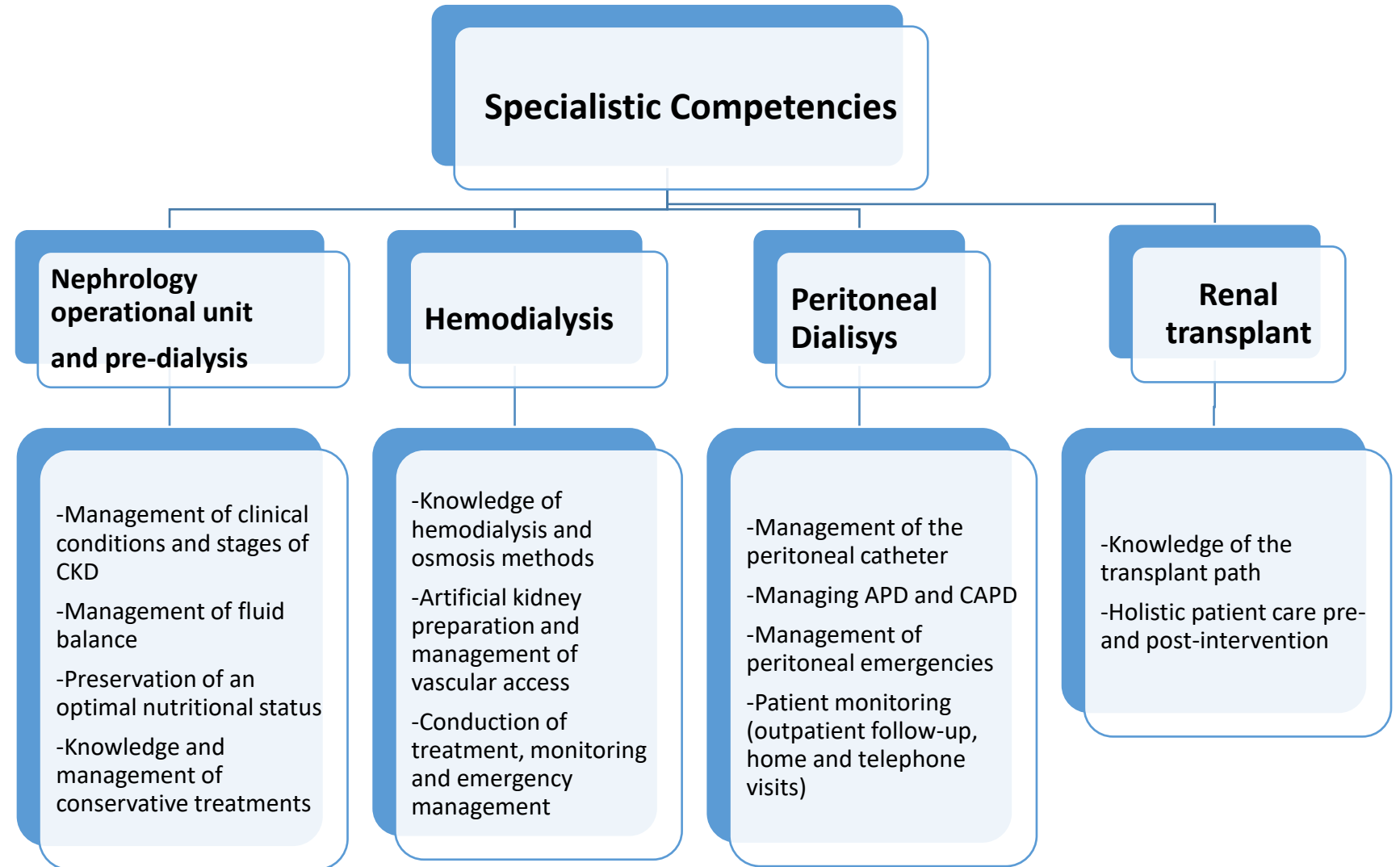


Nephrology Nurse Core Competencies

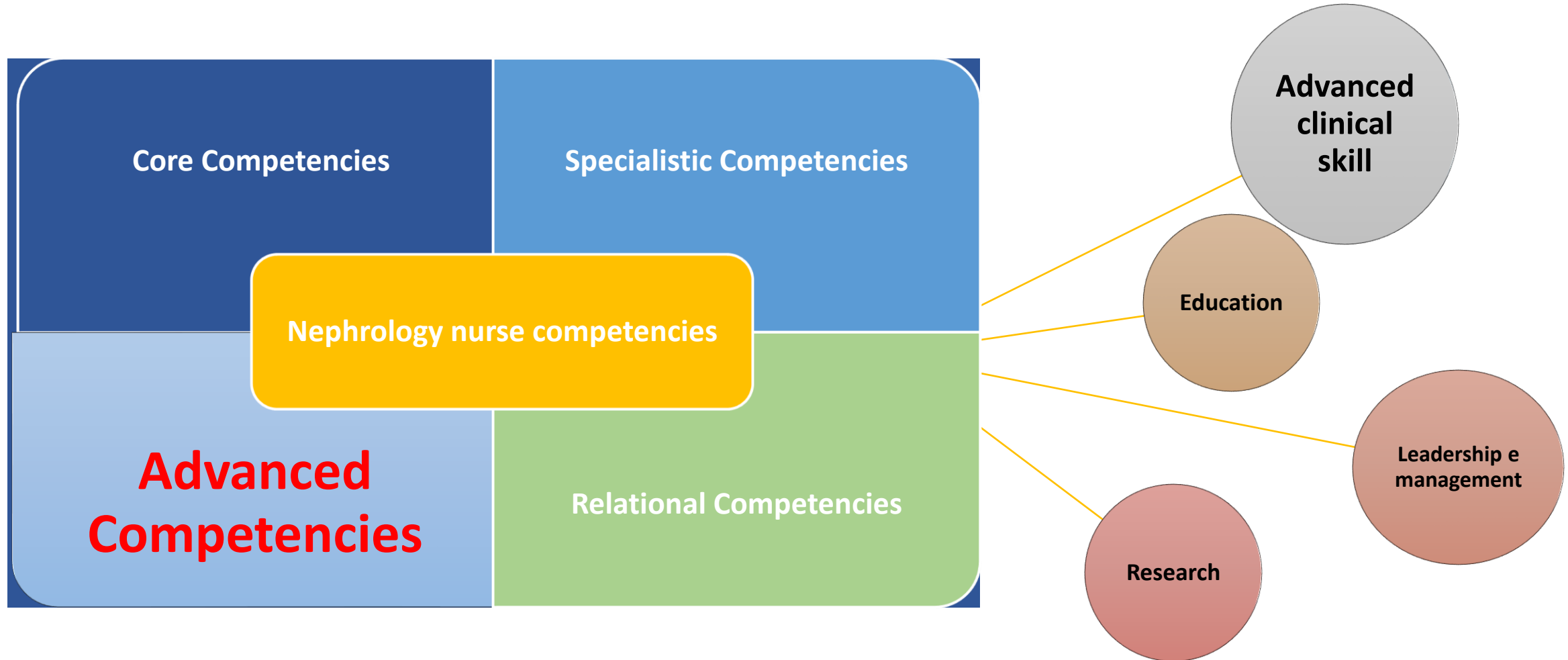


- Core or key competencies include both generic and specialized skills.
- Generic competencies, which are applicable to various nursing fields, include the implementation of the nursing care process based on teamwork, palliative and patient-centered care, therapeutic education, health promotion and prevention of complications, the use of information technology, and research and development.

Nephrology Nurse Specialistic Competencies



Nephrology Nurse Advanced Competencies

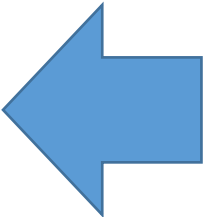


Nephrology Nurse Relational Competencies

**Hemodialysis and
Peritoneal Dialysis**

Community-home care

Renal palliative care



Standardized Relational Domains	Relational Competencies
Relational Care	Balance, Exploration Clarity Problem Solving Different Perspective
Humanistic Care	Comprehensive Treatment Identifying Consequences Encouragement Emphasizing Efforts Sensitivity
Comforting Care	Respect for Privacy Addressing Basic Needs Timely Treatments Truthfulness Shared Decision Making Empathy Trust Openness
Communication and Listening	Human Understanding Effective Communication Interaction Active Listening Developing Therapeutic Alliance
End-of-Life Processes	Responding to Emotions Soliciting Concerns Improving Congruence in Preferences Communication Quality Improvement Support in End-of-Life Decisions
General Competencies	Support and Education Availability Dedication Therapeutic Relationship Empathy Communication Skills

CONCLUSIONS

1. Nephrology nurses provide nursing care in hospital and community settings.
2. Ensuring the quality of specific professional interventions requires the acquisition of a broad spectrum of basic and advanced skills, integrating clinical experience with specialized skills.
3. It is essential that nephrology nurses possess "core" and specialist clinical and relational skills in order to provide quality nursing care

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