

## **Support in Caring for People Living with HIV and AIDS: A Concept Analysis**

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**KEYWORDS** HIV and AIDS. Health Care Services. Organizational Commitment. Perceived Organizational Support. Job Satisfaction. Nurse Leaders

**ABSTRACT** The purpose of this paper is to examine the concept of support to nurses' caring for people living with HIV/AIDS in health care institutions using evolutionary approach. This paper describes the antecedents, attributes, and consequences of nurses' support in the context of HIV/AIDS caring. The concept "support" was undertaken because of its frequent use in nursing literature in connection with of support of patients and families to enable them to restore their health. The aim of the investigation was to inductively develop a definition of support, specifically for nurses who are overburdened by caring for People Living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA). The study followed an evolutionary method of concept analysis. Data were sourced from scientific journals, dictionaries, the thesaurus and encyclopedias, and they were analysed using reasoning strategies such as analysis, synthesis, inductive and deductive strategies, retroduction, inferences and derivation. These essential attributes were then organised into categories and sub-categories that would meaningfully define the support of nurses in health care services which care for PLWHA. The definition of support was derived from clarifying the empirical meaning of support. Synthesis was used to collate the theoretical and empirical meaning of support.