



Nursing Strategies in a Multicultural Environment

Ongoing Japan-Germany Online Case Study



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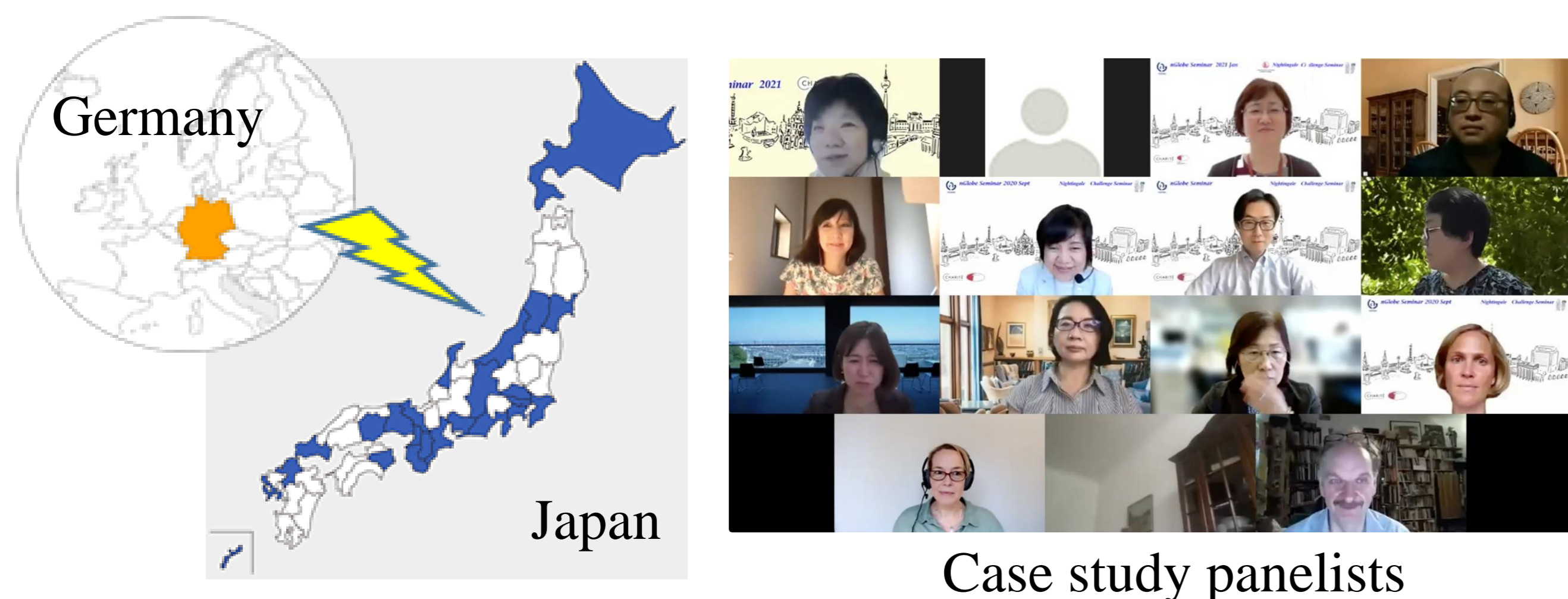
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Purpose

The purpose of this study is to examine nursing strategies in a multi cultural environment through a collaborative case study group in which nurses from Japan and Germany, who have different experiences in healthcare systems and cultural responses.

Methods

The online seminars for Japanese nurses were conducted in 2020 to learn about cultural competence training at the Charité Medical University Hospital in Germany. As the next step, in 2021 using Japanese cases which were common clinical situations that research members have experienced, nursing strategies in a multicultural environment were examined through a back-and-forth between theory and practice. From Germany, the lecturer of Charité's training and Charité nurses participated in the seminar. The case study sessions had three cases, each lasting approximately one and half hours. Interpretation was provided in Japanese, English, and German. The total number of participants was 143 from Japan and 10 from Germany.



Case selection

The three cases were selected from the three regions of the cone model in the figure. From these three case studies, the nursing management of the wards and hospital organization at the base were discussed.

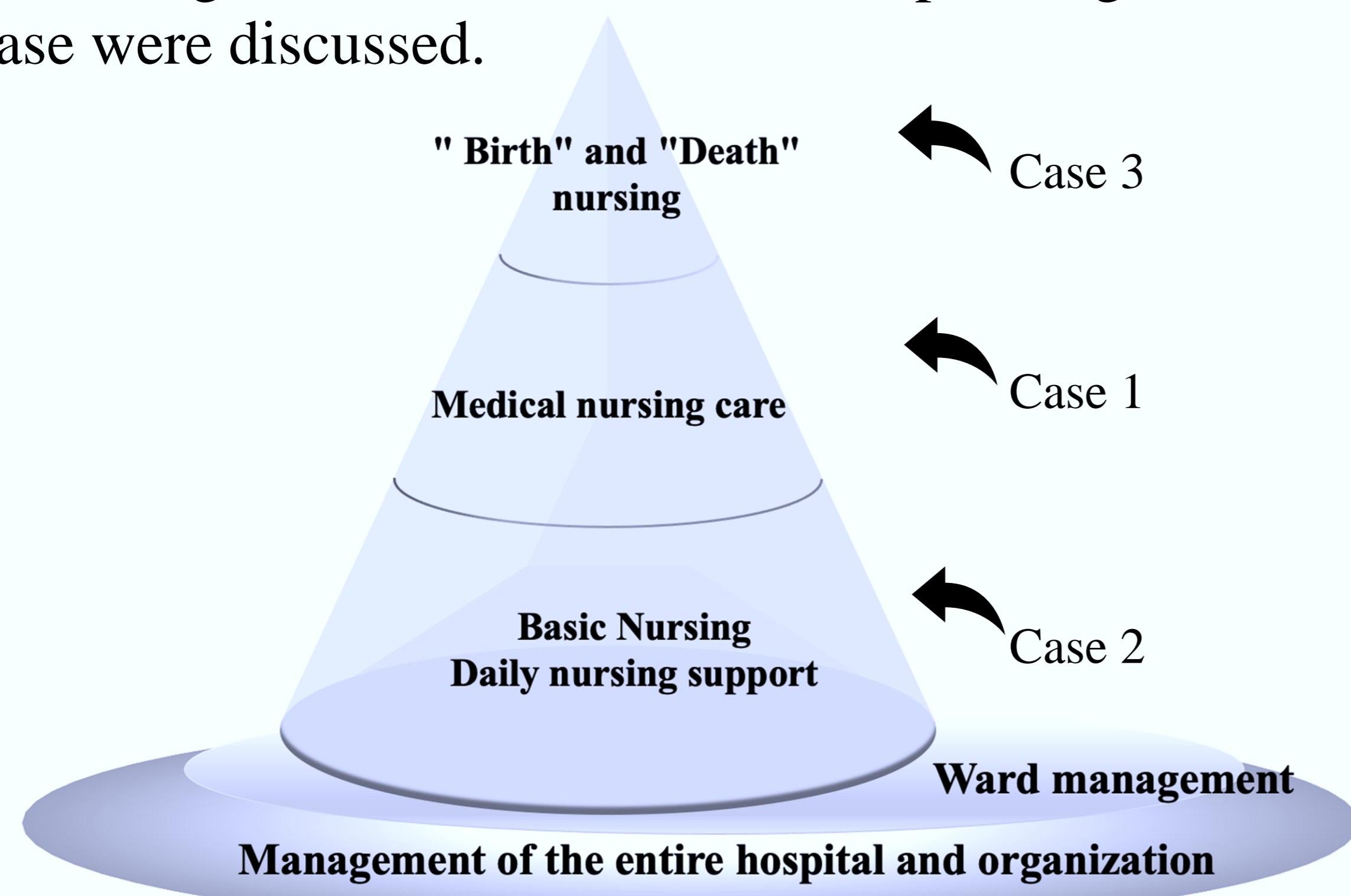
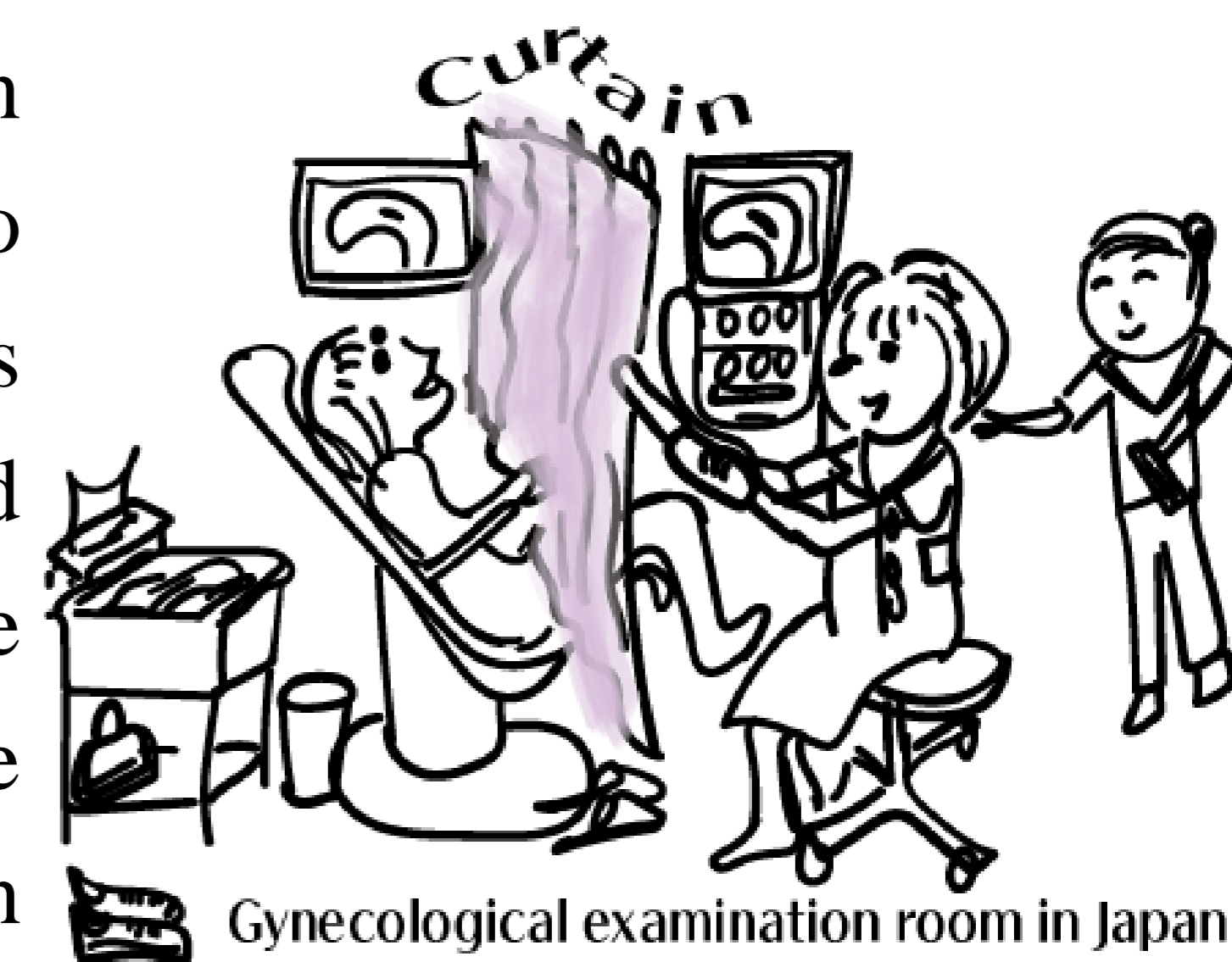


Fig. Areas of competence development for cultural competence in the nursing profession (From the results of a national survey of nurses) Noji, Nosaki, et al (2016)

Results

Case 1, a pregnant woman from Poland traveling in Japan encountered problems due to differences in the way she was examined. It was suggested that the boundaries of shame vary from culture to culture and that these boundaries can be changed through nursing care.



Case 2, it was a problem with food during hospitalization. It was suggested that the resources available in the hospital are decreasing.



Case 3, an international student from Mongolia died unexpectedly in his room, and his family was called from his home country to conduct a funeral according to tradition. The hospital was able to provide culturally sensitive end-of-life care by integrating the hospital's local community resources.



Conclusion

Boundaries and hospital resources were showed as nursing strategies in a multicultural environment. These results suggest new developments in the impact of boundary-changing nursing interventions and the diminishing resources available to nurses in hospitals.

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