Launching HeartCare

Patricia Flatley Brennan, Gyda Bjornsdottir, Michele Rogers, Josette Jones, Shirley M. Moore & Constance Visovsky

Abstract

Persons recovering from coronary artery bypass graft surgery require tailored, sequenced health information as well as peer companionship and professional support. Computer network-based clinical services provide unique and effective modes to serve the nursing needs of this population. It becomes increasingly important to ensure that these services are designed in accord with valid clinical nursing models, and introduced in a timely and efficient manner and are found to be useful by patients. This paper reports the experiences of the HeartCare project in establishing a cardiac recovery service on the world wide web, and examines in depth issues such as the technical acceptability, resource structure, and clinical response. Rogers Diffusion of Innovations model guides the assessment of the project's success in launching this innovative intervention.