Capturing the Essence: Development of Regulatory Concept Maps

Maryann Alexander, PhD, RN, FAAN

Step Two of the Regulation 2030 study is described here and concerns the gathering of experts and the development of concept maps. In this step, the 25 emergent trends identified in Step One of this study were formali ed into actionable items that represent future possibilities (both positive and negative). Interpreting these trends for the future and their implications was relegated to experts from around the world. These experts projected what needs to be in place to deliver the trends and identified the impact these trends may have on regulation and the associated health care system.

Reg la i.n 2030 S mmi

Regulation 2030 was a 2-day summit that brought regulators and health care leaders from across the United States and around the world to Chicago to envision the future of regulation. The attendees were carefully selected for their knowledge of nursing, regulation, and health care; their diversity; and their leadership. Eighty individuals attended the summit, and represented 8 countries, 17 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and 2 U.S. territories.

Participants were assigned to eight work groups. Table assignments were made to ensure there were varying expertise and viewpoints in each of the work groups, providing a balanced perspective as attendees familiari ed themselves with the 25 emergent trends and became accustomed to the format of the later exercises. After the first few segments, attendees were free to select new work groups in order to explore different subject matter and collaborate synergistically with a new group of people, generating continually fresh ideas. Although an attendee might have been a subject matter expert in a prate 1nrLgent t,tter sfrser st/GS1 gs/T1_1c2rrJ0y with 6uragormat wg

In the days following the summit, discussion leaders from the eight small work groups each reviewed the completed maps on which they had led a discussion. Map notes (or the maps themselves) were reorganized and consolidated to provide a clear and accurate depiction of each group's discussion and their thoughts for the future.

The efforts put forth by the summit participants and small-group leaders established the foundation for the next groundbreaking step in this process: to analyze the actual content of the 25 concept maps. The following section discusses Step Three—Analysis and priorities: Developing a modern, effective regulatory framework.

Regulation 2030: Concept Map

Using Visio software, the 25 completed concept maps were transcribed into a digital format. The software permitted map notes to be moved around to better cluster ideas and visualize connections. Once maps had been reformatted in this manner, the small-group leaders were asked to identify higher-order themes by drawing a green box around clusters of notes. The higher-order theme that best captured