POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL
MEDICAL CENTER
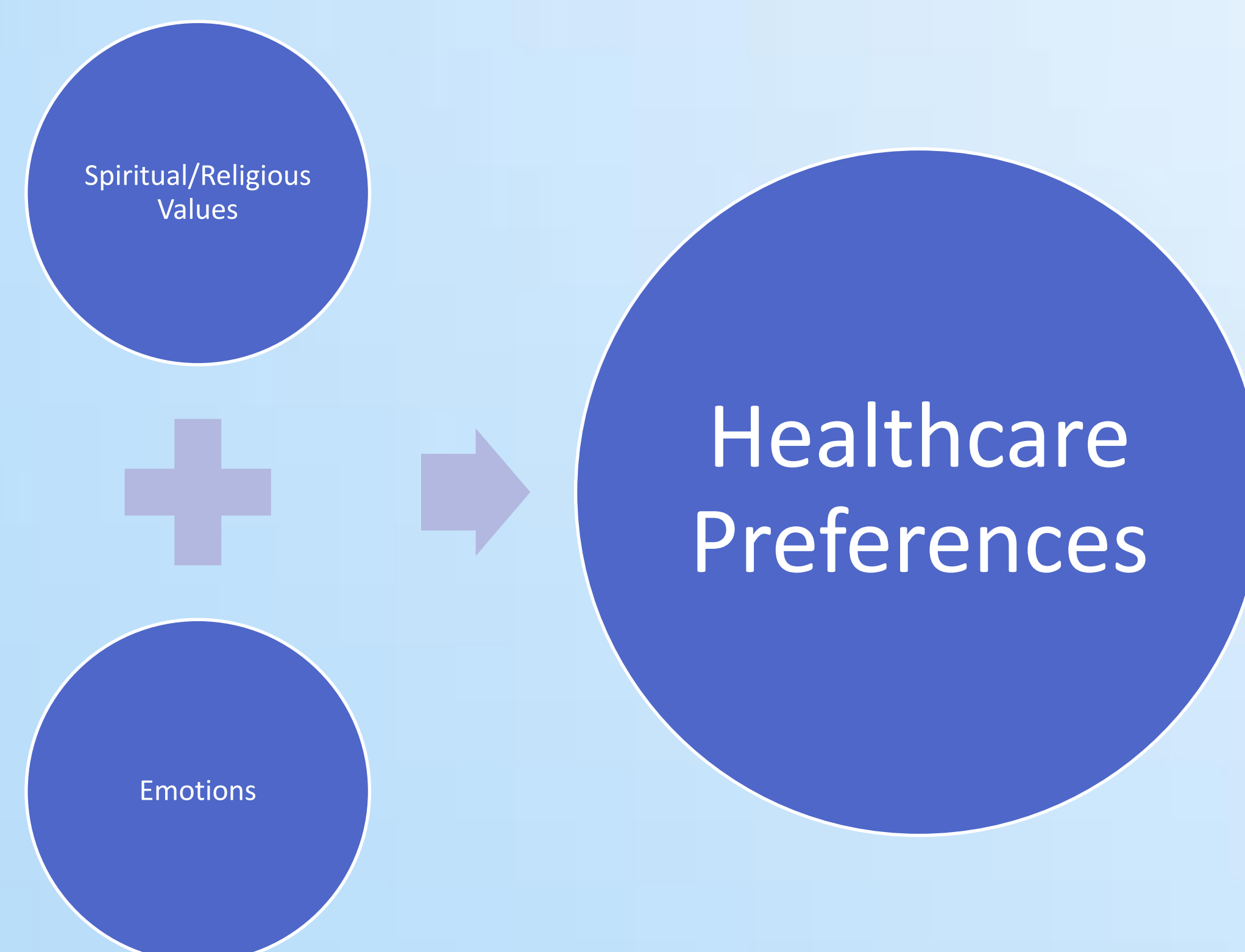*Expert care with a personal touch*

Charting Sacred Encounters: Palliative Care Chaplaincy

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Introduction: Data and Outcomes

In preparation for a Joint Commission certification review of our palliative care program in August 2014, the members of the palliative care team were tasked to develop an electronic health record system that would contribute to the Palliative Care team's objectives and standards. Our hospital's Information System department provided support in the development of the palliative care electronic health record system that would be integral to the hospital wide electronic health record system. Our hospital uses Siemens Sorian clinical software for the electronic health care records. Advanced chaplain interns, enrolled in the hospital's Clinical Pastoral Education program, assisted the lead Palliative Care chaplain in patient and family care. The lead palliative care chaplain, (a.k.a., supervisor of chaplain services), designed three stages towards the development of a clinically relevant chaplain electronic charting record for the palliative care team.

Project Development: Stage One

The palliative care chaplain supervisor, using the clinical pastoral education process, taught chaplain interns the correlation between spiritual/religious values, emotions, and healthcare preferences.

Spiritual/Religious Values

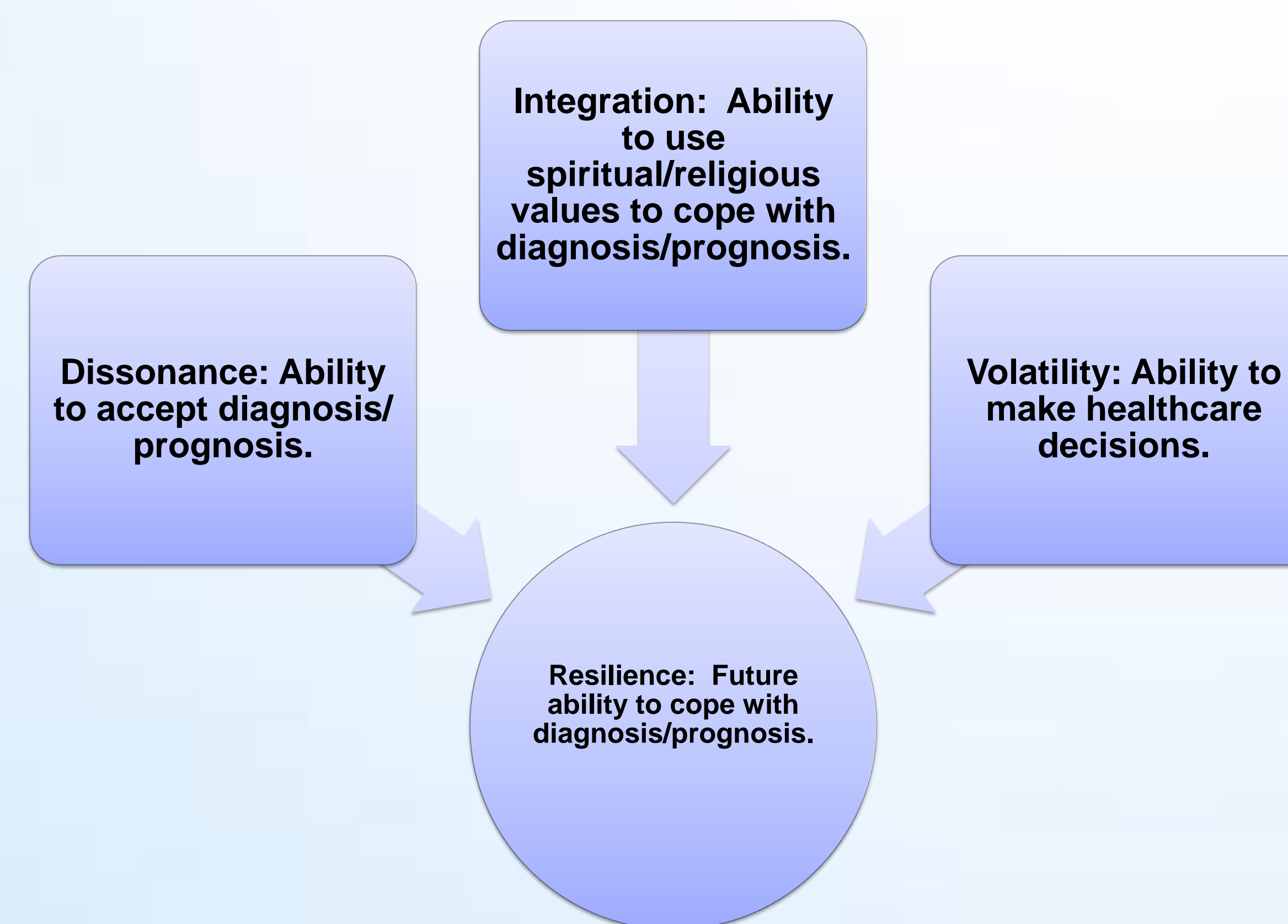Emotions

+ → Healthcare Preferences

Project Development: Stage Two

The palliative care chaplain supervisor developed a spiritual care assessment tool for the chaplain interns that would help them understand the correlation between spiritual/religious values, emotions, and healthcare preferences of the patients and families as the interns "dived" into the patient's and family's spiritual/religious world.

DIVR:

Dissonance-Integration-Volatility-Resilience

Integration: Ability to use spiritual/religious values to cope with diagnosis/prognosis.

Dissonance: Ability to accept diagnosis/prognosis.

Volatility: Ability to make healthcare decisions.

Resilience: Future ability to cope with diagnosis/prognosis.

Project Development: Stage Three

The palliative care chaplain supervisor worked with the Information Services department to translate the spiritual care assessment tool into a clinically relevant palliative care chaplain electronic record that preserves the sacred encounter between chaplain and patient/family and supports the palliative care team in their care of palliative care patients and families.

Palliative Care Chaplain Assessment | Entered / Revised by Francisco Munoz, Chaplain

Palliative Care Chaplain Assessment

Patient Religion: Christian

Religion Comments

Ethical Questions/Issues Related To:

Social/ Emotional Support

Spiritual Care Visit With

Short Term Goal/Intervention

Long Term Goal Plan

Comments

Follow Up Needed

P_ASMT_PCChaplainAssess

Project Development Summary

Currently, the DIVR assessment is written in the "Comments" text box but in the next version of the electronic chart, the DIVR will be integrated in a "drop-down" menu format. The patient or family member is evaluated as high-medium-low for each DIVR category. The data entered by the chaplain in the drop down menu format can be retrieved as chaplain metric reports with the assistance of Information Services.

The palliative care chaplain electronic record continues as a work in progress and is informed by the clinical pastoral education of chaplain interns. The primary goals remains to develop a clinically relevant palliative care chaplain program and electronic charting record.

References

Damasio, A. (2003). Looking for spinoza: Joy, sorrow, and the feeling brain. Orlando, FL: Hartcourt, Inc.

Puchalski, C. (2012). Spirituality in the cancer trajectory. *Annals of Oncology, 23,* iii49-iii55. doi:10.1093/annonc/mds088

Young, C. & Koopsen, C. (2011). Spirituality, health, and healing: An integrative approach. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers.