

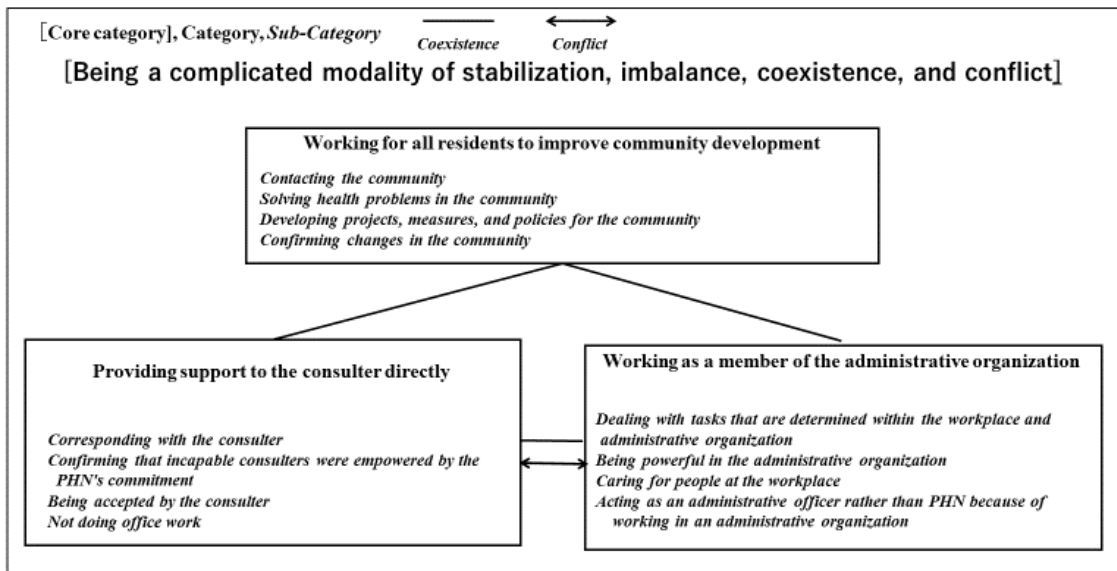
The structure of the perceived professional identity of Japanese public health nurses

Objective: As health problems become more diverse and complicated, the way public health nurses (PHNs) work is changing. Research at the conceptual level of professional identity of PHNs is lacking. This study aimed to explore the structure of the perceived professional identity of Japanese PHNs.

Design and Sample: Grounded theory method was used. Twenty-five PHNs in Japanese municipalities participated.

Measurements: Data were collected through semi-structured interviews and analyzed using open, axial, and selective coding.

Results:



Conclusion: PHNs should be made aware of the three identities revealed in our study and the possibility of a conflict between identities. Moreover, to ensure “Working for all residents to improve community development,” a population-based approach to education is needed with cooperation of universities and clinical practice.

Figure 1. The structure of the perceived professional identity of Japanese public health nurses