

Editorials

Exciting times in nursing practice

This is an exciting time in nursing and midwifery with nurses increasingly prepared and willing to take the lead in guiding nursing practice. Although we value and use evidence from related professions, our challenge is to conduct clinically based nursing research, utilize current evidence and implement best practices as we shape future nursing practice for the benefit of healthcare consumers. Nursing is informed by insights that stem from both research and practice and influenced by a variety of cultural traditions. This journal has been established as an international tool to connect nurses around the globe, providing an outlet for high quality articles describing best practices and research to better inform practice.

Nurses work in many settings: home health, clinics, inpatient acute care units and long term care facilities as well as schools, hospice and day care settings, to name a few. Provision of complex treatments, knowing what the treatment is intended to accomplish and assessing if that goal is being met is a routine part of nursing. To accomplish the work of modern nurses, we must rely on rigorous, clinically based research. We need to evaluate the effect nursing interventions have on patient outcomes. We need to know how best to teach novices to become skilled clinical nurses. We need to know how our interventions should be adapted for different cultural groups or different resource environments. It is critical for these findings to be widely disseminated. Sharing this information is the role of this journal. Open discussion of interventions used in these different settings will enrich the practice of nursing by infusing new perspectives and ideas as well as identifying shared issues and approaches.

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