



RNAO

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario

NURSING RESEARCH INTEREST GROUP

News from the Chair

From the President..

Welcome to our new board and welcome new members. I would like to offer a big thanks to Veronique Boscart who provided stellar leadership for NRIG over the last two years. We intend to build on the great ideas generated at the Annual General Meeting of April 2011 and have used the members' contributions to plan our key activities for the upcoming year.

The year ahead:

Our first priority is to complete the development of our website so that we can enhance communication and increase accessibility to the resources and opportunities provided by NRIG. This will include the creation of a logo that can also be used on marketing materials to encourage membership.

We are planning 2 educational events that will address the needs of various types of members. We will continue to test various delivery formats to maximize participation, leverage the expertise available around the province and also have the presentation available on our website for future reference. We are currently brainstorming topics that will best meet the needs of members. Previous presentations from the past year will be added to the website once it is ready to go live.

We are working to develop a database of funding sources and scholarship opportunities for our members. We will begin with a document developed at the Ottawa Hospital and the handbook of educational programs developed by RNAO. The database will be available on the website. Stay tuned to our next newsletter when we will announce our awards program for 2012. Applications for scholarships and research grants will be due February 13th....details to follow.

We will continue to strengthen our relationships with the Canadian Nurses Association of Nurse Researchers (CANR) as well as the Research Committee of the board. This will include contributing to the final report of the survey of nursing research funding as well as assisting in the communication of the findings and recommendations.

The strength of the interest group is a product of the energy and enthusiasm of the board but also regular input from members. Please take advantage of the various communications we will be sending. Email us to let us know what you would like to see us address to support your involvement in nursing research.

Respectfully,

Nancy Purdy

Fall
November
2011



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Fall 2011 Update from your Member- at-Large, Nursing Re- search

I am pleased to report that this past June, RNAO's resolution to *'Invest in Nursing Knowledge and Research for a Stronger Healthcare System and a Healthier Canada'* was successfully passed by the assembly at the Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Nurses' Association. The resolution resolved that the CNA continue to leverage its strong leadership and advocacy roles and its engagement with CNA members, associate members and external stakeholders 1) to actively pursue public and other funding sources to ensure stable and increased funding for nursing knowledge and research and financial support for early- and mid-career nurse scientists; and 2) to collaborate with the wider interdisciplinary community to foster, within health sciences research, strengthened linkages, funding streams, productivity and knowledge integration. This resolution reflects the efforts of many stakeholders including RNAO's corporate



Nursing Research Committee, RNAO staff, NRIG executive and key stakeholders provincially and nationally. Thanks to all!!!

As well this past May, the Canadian Nurses Foundation's 1st Annual Nightingale Gala to celebrate nurses and their contribution to advancing nursing knowledge and improving the health of all Canadians was a great success. This event not only profiled nursing research, but also raised over \$100,000 for the Canadian Nurses Foundation's Nursing 4.0 Campaign to fund scholarships and research opportunities for Canadian nurses. For those who may be interested, next year's gala will be in Ottawa in May during Nurses' Week!

Respectfully,

Raquel M. Meyer PhD, RN

RNAO Member-at-Large, Nursing Research



CANADIAN
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NURSING RESEARCH IN MOTION



Nursing Beyond Borders: West Sound Parry Nursing Station

Original Research by Ontario Nurses

by Anne Burns

In October 2010 original research being done by nurses all over Ontario was showcased at an RNAO conference called Knowledge, the Power of Nursing. From the West Parry Sound Health Centre (WPSHC), Donna Kearney, BscN, BA Gerontology, RN(EC), MHST presented results from her study on the impact of "hospital affiliated nursing stations staffed by nurse practitioners (NP)" (Kearney, 2010). The infrastructure for this model is based on strong partnerships between primary health care, hospital and specialists. For example, contact with Emergency Room (ER) physicians has allowed timely treatment beyond the NP scope of practice during an anaphylactic event. This model uses technology to its fullest by allowing collaborating, but physically distant, specialists to visually inspect cancerous lesions and order treatment, saving the patient four hours travel each way for care. With twelve months data from the six nursing stations and the WPSHC, the efficacy of the model was demonstrated in terms of patients seen in their community and reduced ER visits. Specifically, "20,000 patients were seen for primary health care 'close to home'. Less than 1% of these patients were referred to the ER" and "over 90% of the patients seen had all of their presenting health care needs met" (Kearney, 2010, pg 4).

This study has made a real contribution to the research literature on hospital affiliated nursing stations and makes a strong case for funding mentorship of new NPs. To quote the executive summary (Kearney, 2010, pg.4), "Any interruption of services in the nursing stations is positively correlated with an increased usage of the ER, as evidenced through the daily statistical logs collected over the research period. A prolonged disruption of service would certainly cause significant volume and cost increases for the WPSHC."

Anne Burns has 25 years experience in all aspects of cardiology nursing and is currently assisting a PhD candidate studying fatigue in stable coronary artery disease. She is relocating to Renfrew County to continue heart failure management and clinical research

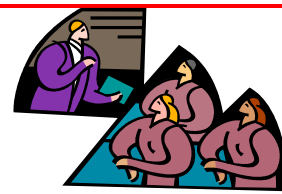
Reference: Kearney, D. (2010) Nurse practitioner managed nursing stations: A hospital affiliated model, "Providing Primary Health Care to Rural Communities"

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Team Preceptorship Model: A Solution for Students'

Clinical Experience



Abstract: There is a shortage of registered nurses in developed countries and this shortage is due to the aging nursing workforce, demand for healthcare services, and shortage of nursing professors to teach students. In order to increase the number of clinical placements for nursing students, the authors developed and implemented a collaborative preceptorship model between a Canadian University and Public Health Department, to facilitate the clinical experiences of Bachelor of Science of Nursing (BScN) students. This paper describes the Team Preceptorship Model (TPM), which was pilot tested on nine students and 14 preceptors prior to implementing the model. This paper highlights the strengths and limitations of the model, its applicability to Public Health Nursing and pilot evaluation results.

Keywords: preceptorship model, preceptors, students' clinical experience

Published: **Cooper Brathwaite, A. & Lemonde, M.** (2011). Team Preceptorship Model: a Solution for Students' Clinical Experience. International Scholarly Research Network, Volume 2011 (2011), Article ID 530357, 7 pages.

2011 NRIIG Grant Recipient Response

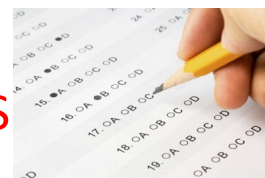
I am grateful to have received the Nursing Research Interest Group (NRIIG) Research Grant. The money awarded from the NRIIG grant opportunity was used to pay for entry of data, assistance with data analyses and transcription of research findings from the study, "Hidden No More: Health Needs Assessment of Services Used by the Hidden Homeless". Both graduate research assistants have participated with the dissemination of knowledge through the creation of a manuscript which has been submitted for publication consideration. An additional qualitative manuscript will be submitted within the next six months and an abstract of the findings of this study was submitted for consideration for presentation at the Midwest Nursing Research Society conference (to be held in Michigan, during the winter of 2012). This grant has greatly assisted with the opportunity to disseminate the findings from this research. It is hoped that through dissemination, policy will be created to specifically address the needs of the hidden homeless population. Im-



proved policy development, will lead to improved resource allocation and the coordination of nursing and other health services. In this way, the hidden homeless may receive health services that best meet their needs, are cost-effective and improve the overall health of this unique population. Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to apply for these important research grant funds.

Sincerely, Jamie Crawley, PhD, RN

SURVEY OF EXPERIENCED NURSE RESEARCHERS



I conducted a survey of four experienced nurse researchers to determine their roles, experiences and motivating factors that influenced their work. They were from Western, Central, Eastern and Northern Ontario. In this newsletter, I am aggregating the responses from two of them (a Nurse Scientist and a CIHR Chair). However, in our Winter/Spring newsletter, I would highlight the responses from the other two researchers. Both researchers have mentored students and supervised them in their PhD Dissertations and have more than 15 years of research experience. Here is what they said.

Q. As a nurse scientist or tenure track professor, what generated your interest in research?

A. The challenge of discovery; the analytical reasoning; the ultimate goal of assisting human beings; and the ability to use research as a vehicle for change.

Q. What has kept you engaged in conducting research over the past 5-10 years?

A. The fun of it; ability to get funded; constantly learning new things and having surprises.

Q. When you mentor or supervise students' research or thesis, what advice do you give them in fulfilling their research goals?

A. Be realistic; work on studies addressing topics of interest to you as well as useful to other human beings; think programmatically and use a "building block" approach between projects. Start with the foundational pieces first.

Q. Are there any pitfalls or obstacles that you can share with a novice researcher?

A. See: Streiner and Sidani (2010). When research goes off the rail... this book has real world stories of pitfalls. The most common problem is trying to do too much within a single project (hence my comment above). Students work more independently while scientists work in teams. This is often and adjustment in thinking and action.





Q. Please name some facilitators or motivating factors to conducting research.

A. Required for maintaining my position; potential to help human beings and linked to real problems. Engage the users of research/key stakeholders throughout and build programmatically.

Q. How did these motivators or facilitators help you succeed?

A. Allowed progress and measurement of progress as well as facilitated applying for grants.

Q. Name five factors or strategies that you will include in a research grant proposal in order for it to be successful?

A. Simplicity of presentation; strong team which is involved throughout the process; write & rewrite & rewrite.

Q. What pitfalls would you exclude in a research proposal or grant proposal?

A. Too many complex ideas; vague language, assuming reviewers know your field.

Q. Is there any other pertinent information that you will give a beginner researcher who is launching his/her career as a researcher?

A. Take it one step at a time and join a team to learn more.

Q. If you are a member of Nursing Research Interest Group (NRIG), what do you envision as the role of NRIG promoting research?

A. Be aware of current issues such as funding and lobby as required. This question was not applicable to one of my interviewees.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dr. Angela Cooper Brathwaite, RN, PhD

NRIG Policy and Political Action Officer



FUNDING INFORMATION

- ◆ Registered Nurses of Ontario: www.rnao.org
- ◆ The Heart and Stroke Foundation: www.heartandstroke.ca
- ◆ Canadian Institute of Health Research: www.cihr.ca
- ◆ The Canadian Nurses Foundation: www.canadiannursesfoundation.com
- ◆ The Drummond foundation: <http://drummondfoundation.ca>
- ◆ Canadian Health Services Research Foundation : <http://www.chsrf.ca>
- ◆ Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario: www.nln.on.ca

New Grad Nurses Corner



BAYCREST: GERIATRIC INTERNSHIP

As a new nurse graduate, it was a challenge to land my first job. One of the few opportunities that knocked on my door, was the Geriatric Internship experience at Baycrest. The internship offered mentoring opportunities tailored to the needs of nurse graduates. It was at Baycrest, I finally secured my first job placement as a Geriatric intern.

As an intern, I was placed on a palliative floor and paired with a clinical mentor. My mentor gave me the training on the floor and supported me in my research activity.

The research study consisted on analyzing patient symptoms scores based on the Edmonton Symptom Assessment

Scale (ESAS). Along with my mentor, I had several Baycrest professionals who assisted me in the research study. As a new intern on the floor I was given the leadership incorporating ESAS, an evidence based tool in our practice. I

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assisted the unit's manager in forwarding this information to the IT staff, and from there the Director and the manager initiated ESAS's electronic accessibility.

Nearing the end of my internship, I was glad I met the unit's goal and mine. I gained the experience a new graduate nurse and assisted the staff in incorporating evidence based practice on the unit. I felt more comfortable practicing as a novice nurse on the floor and developed skills clinically and academically. It was a great opportunity for me and I highly recommend new graduates to apply to Baycrest.

Cheryl Silveira is currently working at Baycrest.

She has graduated from the University of Toronto, Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of nursing in June

2010.

MT. SINAI: HIGH RISK AN-TENATAL/POSTNATAL UNIT

"As a nursing newgrad, I entered the profession - as I am sure many newgrads do- excited but nervous at the same time. I was excited to start a new chapter in my life- finally working as a registered nurse! - but knew I still had a lot to learn. This is why I was so grateful for

NRIG supports nursing research carried out by its members by awarding annual scholarships and grants. Applications are due in early February. Stay tuned for more information.



the orientation provided by Mount Sinai Hospital's Women's and Infants' Health Department (offered through the new-graduate initiative). As new graduates we all were starting off on a level playing field. Our orientation to the department began with four weeks of in-class instruction, followed by three months of clinical rotations within the department. Each new grad was paired with a preceptor and rotated through the High Risk Antenatal/Postnatal Unit, the Labour and Delivery Unit, and the Postpartum Unit (each rotation lasting one month). Although the time spent on each unit was a relatively short period of time, it gave me a good understanding of the type of nursing involved in each specialty area. It also exposed me to an area of nursing I otherwise would not have considered - high risk antenatal care. Currently I am employed with Mount Sinai's High Risk Antenatal/Postnatal Unit, and had I not received the opportunity to work on the unit during my orientation, then I likely would not have considered this area. I truly enjoy working on this unit, and have learned not to take a healthy pregnancy for granted"

By Winttana Debessai

UPCOMING EVENTS

Health Care and Alternative Healing in Cuba.

27 December 2011- 5 January 2012, Cuba

Global outreach opportunity to visit Cuba for university educators, nurses and other health professionals. Americans will travel under special Dept of State approved license/visa for research programs. Visit hospitals and clinics, schools, organizations working for social and sexual equality and attend lectures from health care professionals, department directors, and students. Flights to Havana depart from Cancun, Mexico. Global Exchange is the tour operator. Provider approved by the CA Board of Registered Nursing.

E-mail: President@xitheta.org. The conference has two websites for more information: Health Care and Alternative Healing <<http://www.globalexchange.org/tours/1047.html>>and Sustainable Cuba New Years. <<http://www.globalexchange.org/tours/1010.html>>



Canadian Nurse Researcher's 4th International Nursing Research Conference

2-6 January 2012 -- Quebec, Canada

This conference is open for all nurses worldwide. The conference is sponsored by Cameco, Acuren, Lake side Areva, AP service and Hydo Quebec. This conference offers presentations for original research and nursing evidence-based practices. Luncheon and networking breaks are included.

Contact: Terry Nunley at E-mail: terry.nunley@gmail.com



Interested in Nursing Informatics?

When: Feb 3,4 & 5, 2012 in Toronto



The inaugural National Institute on Nursing Informatics will be led by Dr. Lynn Nagle from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg, Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto and supported by a number of guest faculty from across Canada. This 3 day institute will provide a focused educational opportunity for nurses interested in learning more about informatics. The program will be of particular interest to nurse educators responsible for the integration of informatics into entry level nursing programs, nursing practice leaders, or nurses currently working in or considering a future career in informatics. Participants will be equipped with sufficient foundational knowledge to be able to effectively participate in informatics related operational and educational discussions and activities in their work settings.

Participants will benefit from the extensive practical, academic, and research knowledge and experience of the faculty who will teach in the institute. The curriculum will cover a broad range of topics with content being covered through a combination of didactic presentations, small and large group discussions, and independent study.

Registration Open Online: <http://bloomberg.nursing.utoronto.ca/CASPP/profdev/informatics.htm>

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New
Members
are
welcomed
to attend
meetings
and join
executive
committee

