It is my immense pleasure to publish the first issue of "International Journal of Nursing Research and Practice". It is an online, peer reviewed journal. As first issue launching of the journal, it has a long way to go, with the aim to disseminate high quality research articles.

Research comprises "creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications."¹

Research is used to establish or confirm facts, reaffirm the results of previous work, solve new or existing problems, support theorems, or develop new theories. A research project may also be an expansion on past work in the field or to test the validity of instruments, procedures, or experiments, research may replicate elements of prior project, or the project as a whole. The primary purposes of basic research are documentation, discovery, interpretation, or the research and development (R&D) of methods and systems for the advancement of human knowledge.

Research is defined by Creswell who states that - "Research is a process of steps used to collect and analyze information to increase our understanding of a topic or issue". It consists of three steps: Pose a question, collect data to answer the question, and present an answer to the question.²

The major steps in conducting research are:
1. Identification of research problem
2. Literature review
3. Specifying the purpose of research
4. Determine specific research questions or hypotheses
5. Data collection
6. Analyzing and interpreting the data
7. Reporting and evaluating research
8. Communicating the research findings and, possibly, recommendations

The steps generally represent the overall process; however they should be viewed as an ever-changing iterative process rather than a fixed set of steps.³

Nurses use research to provide evidence-based care that promotes quality health outcomes for individuals, families, communities. and health care systems. Nurses also use research to shape health policy in direct care, within an organization, and at the local, state and federal levels. Nurses conduct research, use research in practice, and teach about research. ANA supports nursing research with a variety of resources such as the Research Toolkit.⁴

Nursing research has a tremendous influence on current and future professional nursing practice, thus rendering it an essential component of the educational process.

It is very important to publish our research findings rather than keeping it safe in almirah. Dissemination of research helps to reach nurses wherever they work. It provides opportunity to improve service and administrative practices important to patient care. It also provides scholarly works in the area of clinical scholarships, health policy and systems, profession, society and world health. Mission of publication is to advance knowledge and improve health of world’s people by applying the findings of researches (evidenced base research findings). It is a means to provide a national and international medium to communicate nursing research. Inform the nursing practice of research and theory.

As an editor I encourage researchers to send more articles, short communications, review articles, case studies on recent trends, evidenced based nursing, epidemiological studies and many more with various types of research design used.

Reference