



Short Communication

Current Trends in Nursing Research

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“Were there none who were discontented with what they have, the world would never reach anything better.”

— Florence Nightingale

Introduction

The word research means “to search again” or “to examine carefully”. Research is systematic inquiry, or study to validate and refine existing knowledge and develop new knowledge. The ultimate goal of research is the development of a body of knowledge for a discipline or profession such as nursing. Nursing research help the nurses in a variety of settings answer question about patient care, education and administration. Research ensures that the practices are based on evidence rather than tradition. Nursing research can be done in education, administration and patient in care.

Nursing research past, present, and future

Contribution of Nightingale

Research in nursing began with Florence Nightingale. Her Notes on nursing (1859) , describes her early interest in environmental factors that promote physical and emotional wellbeing. Nightingale’s most widely known research contribution involved her analysis of factors affecting soldier mortality and morbidity during the Crimean war. Based on her skillful analyses and presentations , she was successful in effecting some changes in nursing care and more generally in public health. In 1900, Most studies focused on nursing education like educational

In 1900, most studies focused on nursing education like educational preparation and clinical experience of nursing students, but limited basis to publish their studies, though the American journal of nursing has published on 1900’s There was lack of research in nursing practice. In 1960, advances in nursing research occurred’. International journal of nursing and Canadian journal of nursing published in 1963.

Nursing research in 1970

By the 1970s , number of nurse’s conducted research studies increased. Journals were established in the united states in the 1970s, advances in nursing sciences , research in nursing and health, and the western journal of nursing research. In 1970s, nursing research from areas such as teaching, curriculum, and nurse’s themselves to the improvement of client care, practice. Nursing research also expanded internationally. The journal of advanced nursing , the premier international journal of nursing research, began publication in the united kingdom in 1976.

Nursing research in 1980

Availability of computers for the collection and the analysis of information began in this century. An ever growing recognition that research is an integral part of professional nursing was seen at this time. The first volume of the Annual Review of Nursing Research was published in 1983. These annual reviews include summaries of current research evidence on selected areas of research practice and encourage utilization of research findings. In 1986 National Centre for Nursing Research (NCNR) at the National institute of health (NIH) was established. The purpose of NCNR was to promote and financially support research projects and training relating to patient care.

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Nursing Research in 1990s

In 1993, the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) was born. In 1986, the NCNR had a budget of 16\$ million, whereas in fiscal year of 1999, the budget for NINR had grown to about \$70 million. Journals were established during the 1990s in response to the growth in clinically oriented research and interest in EBP among nurses, including clinical nursing research, clinical effectiveness, and outcomes management for nursing practice. The priorities established by CORP in 1994 included low birth weight, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection, long-term care, symptom management, nursing informatics, health promotion.

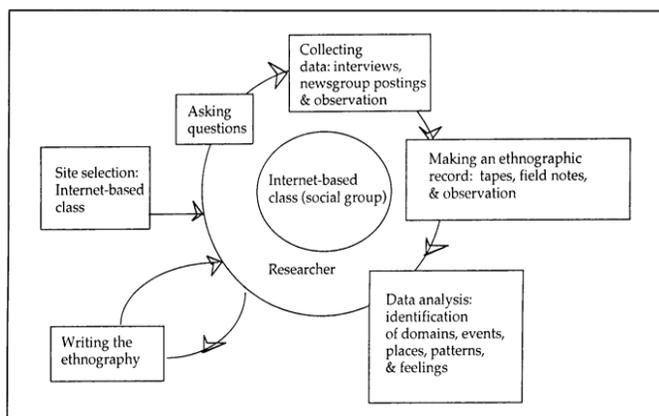
Application of nursing research

Nursing research is applicable in various fields as in:

1. Nursing Education
2. Nursing Practice
3. Nursing Administration

Current trends in nursing education: wide qualitative research

- Increasing trends of conducting qualitative research
- Qualitative research methods have become increasingly important as ways of developing nursing knowledge for evidence-based nursing practice. Qualitative research answers a wide variety of questions related to nursing's concern with human responses to actual or potential health problems.
- Qualitative research is a type of scientific research which has its roots in philosophy and human sciences.
- Qualitative research plays an important part in providing evidence for practice in nursing, and is gaining greater



Current trends in nursing practice: health promotional research (HPRP)

Health promotion has become more important now a days. Nurses in education, practice, and research settings can participate in the advancement of health promotion not only to the mainstream but to the forefront of nursing practice. In the future, the focus must be on teaching people how to remain healthy. Nurses must have an evidence-based understanding of the significant effect that can be made through health promotion interventions and communicate this understanding to the public at large. As more people grow in their awareness of activities that lead to good health and become knowledgeable about their own health status and the health of their families, the overall health of the population will improve. Institute for Health Research and Policy housed at the University of Illinois at Chicago conducted The Health Promotion Research Program. The HPRP which develops interventions that promote healthy lifestyles and tests these interventions in the community, especially among populations disproportionately burdened with chronic disease.

Current trends in nursing administration: evidence-informed decision making

Evidence-informed decision-making is an important element of quality care in all domains of nursing practice and is integral to effect changes across the health-care system. It is a continuous interactive process involving the explicit, conscientious and judicious consideration of the best available evidence to provide care. It is essential to optimize outcomes for individual clients, promote healthy communities and populations, improve clinical practice, achieve cost-effective nursing care and ensure accountability and transparency in decision-making within the health-care system.

The trend towards greater roles for nurses affects not only their practice but also their place in the organization of care services. Many studies have been conducted on the re-organization of responsibilities of leader nurses and on their importance in the transitions of healthcare system. Some authors favor the empowerment of the nursing sector by using, for example, the nurse led model for certain care sectors.

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