Editors

Paul Fulbrook - joint editor

Lynne Harrison - joint editor

The World of Critical Care Nursing
2008 Volume 6 Number 1

Contents

GUEST EDITORIAL

Shelley Schmollgruber, Lecturer, Intensive and Critical Care Nursing Science, Department of Nursing Education, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

ARE WE DOING IT ALL THE TIME? IF NOT, THEN WHY NOT?

Evidence-based practice is a pivotal focus of health care services in the world. Increasingly critical care nurses are required to provide the evidence on which they base their practice decisions. It is recognised that engaging in research enables critical care nurses collectively to develop practice in pursuit of patient-centred care. While cause is notable, its full implementation in clinical practice remains problematic.

The most commonly cited barriers as to why critical care nurses have difficulty in implementing research findings in practice is that they feel they do not have enough authority to change patient procedures, they do not understand statistical analyses (Parahoo, 2000) or they do not always solve our clinical problems. The good news is that these barriers are by no means insurmountable and practice development (PD) shows us that change is possible with good teamwork (McCormack et al., 1999; Manley & McCormack, 2003). An essential requirement in our understanding of evidence-based practice is that we do it all the time.

So how can we do it? Our colleagues around the world have been engaging actively in the development of clinical practice guidelines for some time now. We still need to do more in implementing these clinical guidelines into local practice. This may involve conducting clinical audits, benchmarking change and development of written standards or protocols as evidence of local best practice. Understanding the research process is by no means exclusively in the domain of academic institutions. Many of our colleagues, with whom we work, have an understanding of research, and most probably would be more than willing to share their knowledge, if asked to do so. Many of us already have collegial relationships with our academic institutions, inviting them to assist provides opportunity not only to develop capacity but also establish partnerships in individual and collective research initiatives.

Who has done it? One study (Henderson et al., 2005), reports on the development of an evidence-based practice model for nurses, within the broader structure of the organisation's core business. Among the key elements identified by these authors, were nursing leadership, motivational strategies and educational support to get started, coupled with ongoing educational sessions and the addition of a facilitator to drive individual research initiatives. The development of a supporting team was established to ensure sustainability of the project. In addition, presentation of clinical guidelines and revisions to practice were undertaken by subgroup working parties. This study tells us that it is not

Critical Care Critical Times: nursing abstracts of the World Federation of Critical Care Nurses 4th Annual Conference, South Africa, August 2007

World Federation of Critical Care Nurses.....02

This is my unit: Chris Hani Baragwanath ICU, Soweto, South Africa

Stephilia Tshukutsoane, Juan Scribante.....10

Perspectives on critical care nursing: Nigeria

Obiageli Oguariri, Halima Kabara.....13

Declaration of Buenos Aires (Spanish version)

World Federation of Critical Care Nurses.....17

Declaration of Madrid (Spanish version)

World Federation of Critical Care Nurses.....19

Connect: The World of Critical Care Nursing - The official journal of the World Federation of Critical Care Nurses is published in association with the European federation of Critical Care Nursing associations.

impossible to focus on developing evidence-based practice with good vision, leadership and teamwork. I firmly believe as critical care nurses, we have creative vision and we can do it all the time, if we remain focused on why we are doing it. It is foremostly for our patients. We do need an understanding of evidence based practice because the strength of evidence will determine future health care policy decisions.

References

- Parahoo K (2000). Barriers to, and facilitators of research utilization among nurses in Northern Ireland. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 31 (1), 89-98.
- McCormack B, Manley K, Kitson A, Titchen A, Harvey G (1999). Towards practice development – a vision in reality or a reality without vision? *Journal of Nursing Management* 7 (5), 255-264.
- Manley K, McCormack B (2003). Practice development: purpose, methodology, facilitation and evaluation. *Nursing in Critical Care* 8 (1), 22-29.
- Henderson A, Winch S, Henney R, McCoy R, Grugan C (2005). 'Working from the inside': an infrastructure for the continuing development of nurses' professional clinical practice. *Journal of Nursing Management* 13 (2), 106-110.

Editors

Paul Fulbrook (Australia), paul.fulbrook@acu.edu.au
Lynne Harrison (UK), lharrison2@uclan.ac.uk

Associate Editors

Birte Baktoft (Denmark), bba@rc.aaa.dk
Patricia Moloney-Harmon (USA), pmoloney@lifebridgehealth.org
Violeta Lopez (Hong Kong), violeta@cuhk.edu.hk
Kari Oyrn (Norway), kari.oyrn@deltadigital.no
Ged Williams (Australia), Ged.Williams@mh.org.au

International Advisory Board

Amparo Bernat Adell (Spain), a.bernat.a@telefonica.net
Anu Isohanni (Finland), anu.isohanni@hus.fi
Aysel Badir (Turkey), abadir@ku.edu.tr
Daniel Benlahouès (France), benla@chello.fr

David Chan (Hong Kong), dchan123@netvigator.com
Dongoak Debbie Kim (South Korea), dokim@dju.ac.kr
Drago Satošek (Slovenia), drago.satosek@kclj.si
Elio Drigo (Italy), edrigo@aniarti.it
Elizabeth Papathanassoglou (Greece), elipapa@nurs.uoa.gr
Eve Sison (Philippines), evesison2000@yahoo.com
Gordon Speed (New Zealand), speedg@wave.co.nz
Guadalupe Ibarra Castaneda (Mexico), gibarra@saludangeles.com
Jos Latour (Netherlands), jos.latour@planet.nl
Lerma Hernandez (Belgium), lerma.hernandez@skynet.be
Marcel van Vilet (Netherlands), m.vanvilet@amc.uva.nl
Mona Ringal (Sweden), mona.ringdal@fhs.qu.se
Rósa Þórsteinsdóttir (Iceland), rosa.th@simnet.is
Sabine Ruedebusch (Germany), Sabine.Ruedebusch@pius-hospital.de

Stefan Böhm (Austria), stefan.boehm@uklibk.ac.at
Tracy Pilcher (UK), tapilcher@aol.com

Layout

Jamie Fulbrook, jamie@jnewmedia.com

Connect: The World of Critical Care Nursing is published by Paul Fulbrook, Jamie Fulbrook, and Lynne Harrison.

All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced, electrical, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without prior written permission from the publisher.

The publishers, editor and editorial board wish to make it clear that the data, opinions and statements appearing in the articles herein are those of the contributor(s) concerned; such opinions are not necessarily shared by the editor or the editorial board. Accordingly, the publishers, editor and editorial board and their respective employees, officers and agents accept no liability for the consequences of any such inaccurate or misleading data, opinions or statements.

ISSN 1748-6254