

RESEARCH & EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM

EVOLUTION OF NURSING KNOWLEDGE: EVIDENCE INTO PRACTICE

 **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS** 

December 4-5, 2009

Friday evening, December 4th 5:00-8:00pm  Saturday, December 5th 9:00am-4:00pm

**FLETCHER ALLEN HEALTH CARE DAVIS AUDITORIUM
Burlington, Vermont**

Purpose:

The purpose of this symposium is to provide a forum for nurses (staff, students, educators, administrators, researchers) regardless of their experience in conducting nursing research to learn more about the evolving realm of nursing knowledge. Historically, secular nursing knowledge began with Florence Nightingale's collection and analysis of scientific data to identify the best treatment modalities for patients in addition to her emphasis on the unique role of the nurse.

Currently, nursing knowledge can be generated through a variety of scientific methods. Empirical research utilizes quantitative and/or qualitative methods to test hypotheses, describe nursing phenomenon and identify new nursing modalities. Evidence-based practice projects investigate current nursing actions and customs to validate their effectiveness. Quality improvement projects are typically institutional processes that examine the current state of practice (for example, are call lights being answered quickly enough) and identify barriers and facilitators to achieving stated quality goals.

During the symposium, nurses will have the opportunity to share their empirical, evidence-based practice and/or quality improvement endeavors with the nursing community. Projects may be completed or in progress. Projects will be described through verbal or poster presentations. There will be opportunities for formal and informal dialogue throughout the conference. Participants may also participate in learning activities in the University of Vermont Dana Medical Library.

The symposium will provide participants opportunity to reflect on the contributions of our nurse colleagues who have died. There will be a slide presentation to honor those nurses who are no longer with us. You will be able to submit a picture and a statement about a nurse you would like to honor when you register for the event.

Sponsors:

- ❖ Fletcher Allen Health Care
 - James M. Jeffords Institute for Quality and Operational Effectiveness
 - Nursing Education and Research
- ❖ Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society (Kappa Tau and Gamma Delta Chapters)
- ❖ Vermont State Nurses Foundation
- ❖ The University of Vermont Department of Nursing
- ❖ Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties

Guidelines for Submission:

A one page abstract of a study will be accepted by e-mail only. Submit your abstract in two forms to Julie Basol, Research Symposium Coordinator: JNB@gmavt.net

- 1) The first abstract must state the complete title, author'(s) name, credentials, institutional affiliation, and body of abstract. If more than one author is listed, indicate who is serving as the contact person.
- 2) The second abstract must include the title with no other identifying information and the body of the abstract.

Abstracts must include:

- ❖ Type of research (Empiric, Evidence-Based Practice or Quality Improvement)
- ❖ Purpose of study
- ❖ Rationale and significance
- ❖ Description of methodology
- ❖ Subject,
- ❖ Findings
- ❖ Conclusions
- ❖ Recommendation for future research

Each section of the abstract should be clearly identified with a heading. Figures and tables are acceptable but must fit on the one page limit. Abstracts will be selected on the basis of merit through blind review.

Abstract preparation:

- Abstracts should be single spaced and fit on one side of one 8.5" x 11" paper.
- Margins must be one and one-half inches on left, and one inch on right, top and bottom.
- Center the title in upper case, and single space the body using 12 point Times (New Roman) font.
- Accepted abstracts will be printed as submitted in the Symposium program.

Each abstract submission must be accompanied by a Biographical Data Form:

- A completed Biographical Data form (available on line at: www.uvm.edu/~kappatau) and disclosure form for each presenter.
- Two measurable behavioral learning objectives and corresponding content (included in the Bio Data form) related to the abstract. (For example: At the completion of this presentation, the participant will be able to.....)

Poster Guidelines:

- Tables will be available for free standing posters. Bulletin boards will be available for pinned up posters. (max, size, 4ft x 7ft.) Further guidelines will be provided to those accepted for the poster session.
- Poster sessions provide opportunity for interaction between the presenter and the audience. Posters will be on display Friday, December 4th 5:00-8:00pm and Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm. Presenters will be at their posters between 5:00-6:15pm on Friday, December 4th and during the breaks on December 5th.

Submission date:

The Call for Abstracts **opens** June 15, 2009 and **closes** at midnight (Eastern Standard Time) on August 14, 2009. Abstracts received after the due date and time will not be reviewed. Abstracts submitted without objectives and/or author biographical/conflict of interest forms will not be reviewed. Presenters will be responsible for all registration and travel costs. Notification of acceptance or rejection of abstracts will be emailed on or about September 15, 2009.