

Strengthening Evidence-Based Nursing Practice

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Evidence-based practice (EBP) involves a taking problem-solving approach to clinical care, integrating deliberate utilization of the most reliable scientific evidence, the expertise of clinicians, and the values of patients (Sladek & Phillips, 2004) to ensure safe and appropriate patient care. The World Health Organization has declared the promotion of EBP as a priority area to enhance the contribution of nurses to the health of citizens (World Health Organization, 2017). Numerous studies have suggested that incorporating EBP, not only enhances the quality of care provided by nurses, but also leads to improved health outcomes and safety for patients (Ratish, 2019). Evidence-Based Practice has emerged as a foundational concept in the development and implementation of healthcare systems worldwide. As EBP swiftly takes over the traditional authority-based model in healthcare decision-making, professionals are duty-bound to acquire knowledge, apply it in their practices, and guide others in its appropriate use (Melnik, 2016)

Nurses employing evidence-based approaches to care within workplace cultures that endorse EBP are reported to experience greater empowerment, as they can significantly influence patient care (Duff, et al, 2020). Despite the positive impact of EBP being substantiated by numerous studies, substantial barriers persist that hinder its adoption as the global standard of care. Such obstacles encompass (a) clinicians' insufficient knowledge and skills in EBP (Erfina et al., 2025) (b) mistaken belief that EBP is overly time-consuming, (c) influence of local organizational culture and politics, (d) absence of backing from nurse leaders and managers, and (e) insufficient resources and investment in EBP (Gorsuch et al., 2020; Melnyk et al., 2008, 2017),

In addition, the gap between research findings and clinical practice can present a challenge in translating research results into patient care practice. Higher education levels, working as a clinician and educator, and teaching clinical students may all help to enhance EBP implementation (Bachtiar, et al, 2023). Therefore, organizational or institutional support is needed to foster professional culture, the application of research findings in patient nursing care practice, and ongoing development through a culture of EBP. This can be fostered through strategies such as mentorship and other training programs such as journal clubs (Valizadeh et al., 2022). Nurses too, need to continue to develop their research knowledge and skills throughout their careers and read new and emerging research in their fields to ensure evidence applied to practice is the most current and scientifically based. Taking accountability for this is an ethical responsibility for all those engaged in providing quality and relevant care to their populations.

The Editorial Board recognizes that strengthening evidence-based nursing practice is essential for improving the quality of nursing services, implementing patient safety, and enhancing health outcomes. We encourage nurses, educators, researchers, and

healthcare service leaders to support collaboration and knowledge translation through education and research into nursing services by means of high-quality research and publication. ICON Journal is one of the contributive efforts to advance knowledge and improve nursing services nationally and globally through the dissemination of quality research findings and publications, thereby fostering a culture of evidence-based nursing practice implementation.

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