Practice & Research in Nursing Group

School of Nursing
Faculty of Health Sciences
Queen’s University

Annual Report 2010

MB Harrison, RN PhD, Scientific Director
JM Medves, RN PhD, Senior Scientist
JE Tranmer, RN PhD, Senior Scientist
E. VanDenKerkhof, Senior Scientist

Practice and Research in Nursing
A Centre for Nursing Health Services Research
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PRN is now in its seventh year (2003-2010) as an established entity within the Queen’s University School of Nursing. In 2010, Dr. Jennifer Medves resigned her post as Director of PRN. We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Medves for her seven years unfailing leadership that fostered PRN from a fledgling group to a vibrant and productive research collaboration.

Dr. Jennifer Medves  
Director, Practice and Research in Nursing Group, 2003-2010

In 2010 the position Scientific Director of PRN was assumed by Dr. Margaret B. Harrison, Professor of Nursing. Under Dr. Harrison’s direction, PRN continues to refocus and hone its mandate within the School of Nursing to incorporate transitions in care and patient safety as a major academic and research focus.

Dr. Margaret B. Harrison  
Scientific Director, Practice and Research in Nursing Group, 2010-

**PRN Membership and Logistical Issues**

PRN is housed on the second and third floors at 78 Barrie Street and the Nursing Research Unit based at the Clinical Research Centre, Kingston General Hospital. In 2010, PRN has successfully competed for new funding and continues to build capacity in nursing research in the Kingston region.


Senior scholars E. VanDenKerkhof and J. Tranmer have protected time for research through external career awards and M.B. Harrison through externally funded buy-out teaching time. The QJBC supports St Elizabeth Health Care as an Evidence Utilization Group (EUG).

PRN lost two of its scholars in 2010. Dr. C. Baker, former Director of the School of Nursing, has retired to assume the role of Executive Director, Canadian Association for Nursing Schools, and Dr. L. Keeping-Burke, who has accepted a new challenge at the School of Nursing, University of New Brunswick.
Major construction was undertaken in 2010 within the School of Nursing at 92 Barrie Street, 2nd floor to provide the Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration-patient safety with space to house its newly recruited Project Coordinator (V. Donaldson), Patient safety Officer (J. McVeety), Library Scientist (A. Ross-White) and Methodologist (C. Godfrey). Financial restraints prevent the School of Nursing from supporting a dedicated administrative assistant to support PRN faculty in their research endeavours. This role has been incorporated into the duties of the QJBC Business Officer (V. Angus).

The Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration for Patient Safety

Through its major initiative, Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration for Patient Safety, significant momentum has been realized to establish national recognition as a leader in patient safety research and practice (see Appendix: QJBC fact sheet)

The Knowledge to Action (KTA), a planned action framework, guides knowledge generation and steps toward knowledge uptake (Graham, et al. 2006), has guided QJBC regionally and continues to underpin the national safety initiative.
There is one unifying theme shared by both PRN and QJBC-PS. All the researchers are involved in research evidence and transfer into practice. Both PRN and QJBC-PS focus on the point of care i.e., whether that is institutional, community, transitional including hospital-to-home, rural or urban, while QJBC-PS’ primary focus is on patient safety at the point of care, particularly in long term care and home care settings, from both provider and patient perspectives. A fundamental element with the QJBC-PS approach is the amalgamation of field knowledge with external evidence (i.e., current methods available within the science of synthesis (meta-analysis, meta-synthesis) and guideline adaptation). This is essential to make use of available research (e.g., using pressure ulcer risk tools originally developed for administration by RNs with unregulated health care providers in long term care or home settings).

**Advisory Board Meeting, November 30, 2010**

The first meeting of the Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration Advisory Board was held in November 2010. Representatives from the following organizations participated: Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration for Patient Safety, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Accreditation Canada, Canadian Patient Safety Institute, Health Council of Canada, Canadian Nurses Association, Community and Hospital Infection Control Association Canada, Canadian Healthcare Association, Canadian Home Care Association, Patients for Patient Safety Canada, Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Canadian Medical Association and Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada.

**Room of Horrors**


In celebration of Canadian Patient Safety Week, students participated in an interprofessional “Room of Horrors” event, sponsored by QJBC-PS. The event, which took place November 3-4, 2010, was open to Nursing, Medicine & Rehabilitation Therapy Students (all years). Student teams challenged themselves to identify potential adverse events in the Faculty of Health Sciences Patient Simulation Lab and participated in other patient safety focused activities. The purpose was to increase students’ awareness of patient and provider safety in order to prepare them for the health care sector.

**“Room of Horrors” prize presentation:**

Back row: L-R: Dr. Margaret Harrison, Vanessa Parolin (OT), Jessica Cockbain (OT), Christina Demandt (Nursing), Liz Callaghan (Nursing);

Front row: Stacey James (Nursing), Stephanie Camara (Nursing);

Unable to attend: Michelle McKnight (OT), Margaret Seaborn (Nursing), Emily Lovrics (Nursing)
Perspectives on Patient Safety among Undergraduate Nursing Students in a Canadian University

As part of the N-903 curriculum, PRN scholars E. VanDenKerkhof and D. Edge guided students in their design of a cross-sectional, correlation survey to answer the following research questions to reveal levels of awareness among undergraduates on the extent to which patient safety is addressed in both the curricula and in the clinical setting: (1) How do nursing students’ rate their perspectives on the extent to which patient safety is incorporated into their health education programs in both classroom and clinical settings? (2) Is there a relationship between students’ perspectives regarding patient safety between the classroom and clinical settings? And (3) Is there a difference in student perspectives between first, second, third and fourth year students with regards to patient safety? Approximately 90% of undergraduate nursing students completed the survey. The same survey will be conducted to all undergraduate nursing students each year for five years to measure changes in patient safety perceptions over time.

The data collected will be used to measure changes in patient safety awareness over time, and will also assist in enhancing and improving course curricula with regard to patient safety. As well, the 2010 data will be shared with Dr. L. Ginsburg, York University who designed the original survey tool, in order that she may perform further statistical testing regarding its validity and reliability.

PRN-QJBC Registered Systematic Reviews in Progress

- Examining effectiveness of peripheral intravenous dwell times greater than seventy-two hours in adult patients in a community setting: A systematic review (primary reviewer: Ray, K., St. Elizabeth Health Care) (JBI)

- The experience of self-care: A Systematic Review (primary reviewer: Godfrey, C., QJBC) (JBI)

- Intervention strategies that support self-care activities: an integrative study across disease/disability groupings (primary reviewer: Godfrey, C., QJBC) (JBI)

- The Effectiveness of Tobacco Intervention Education for Health Professional Students’ Health Promotion Practice: A Systematic Review (primary reviewer: Hyndman, K., Brandon University) (JBI)

- Patient and Family Member Perspectives of Encountering Adverse Events in Health Care: A Systematic Review (primary reviewer: McVeety, J., QJBC, secondary reviewer: Keeping-Burke, L., Queen’s School of Nursing) (JBI)

- Implementation Strategies for Nursing and Professions Allied to Medicine Effective Practice & Organization of Care Group (EPOC) (primary reviewer: Harrison, M.B.) (Cochrane)

Optimizing the Guideline Adaptation Process

To build on her work in the promotion of best practice guidelines, M.B. Harrison (et al) was instrumental in developing a stepwise approach to contextualized guideline adaptation to reduce duplication of effort, increase guideline uptake and improve guideline quality through a commitment to evidence-based principles. The method and supporting materials were evaluated by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, under M.B. Harrison’s direction, to determine how the ADAPTE methodology could be tailored for use in the Canadian context. The resulting refined methodology and resource, CAN-
IMPLEMENT: Guideline Adaptation and Implementation Planning Resource, provides practitioners with a toolkit and resource manual to adapt existing guidelines to their local contexts. The CAN-IMPLEMENT toolkit is now available online with Cancer View Canada (Canadian Partnership Against Cancer) http://www.cancerview.ca/portal/server.pt/community/guidelines/459, and will soon be included with the international Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) suite of resources posted on their central website.

PRN Thematic Research Framework

The four elements of the PRN thematic research framework adopted in 2009, Understanding evidence, Gaps in Knowledge, Uptake of Evidence, and Scholarship of Integration, continue to provide a conceptual framework for PRN research. While no one component is more important than the others, they are interrelated, and many of the research projects undertaken by the PRN scholars fit in more than one component. Conceptually scholars have recognized that a research question can start anywhere on the cycle and that a whole program of research can evolve from developing the framework, identifying gaps, and then working with practitioners to integrate new knowledge into practice and finally evaluating if best practice is now implemented (see Appendix: PRN fact sheet).

Overview of PRN Research Activity by PRN Senior Scientists

In 2010, 18 new research grant applications were submitted. Of these, 8 have been successfully funded, 7 as principal investigator, for a total of $399,500. Ten research grant applications await a decision from the funding agencies. As well, PRN senior scientists are carrying forward 8 continuing research grants (funding totaling over $1.8 million).

Research progress was reported at 42 conferences, 16 international, 14 national, and 12 regional. At least 4 of these were keynote presentations. Four chapters (1 as first author, 1 as senior author) and 8
peer-reviewed papers were submitted and published (5 as first author, 3 as senior author). Six additional papers are currently in press with peer reviewed journals.

**Academic Growth**

Programs offered within the School of Nursing have expanded considerably in the past 2 years and now include the Nurse Practitioner Program and the non-thesis Masters Primary Care program. In 2010, 9 students entered MSc program (3 theses; 6 non-theses), 3 into the PhD program, and 17 into the Nurse Practitioner program. The PRN scholars encourage all graduate students to publish their findings in peer reviewed journals and engage in getting the results into practice based recommendations. The PRN scholars also write and publish together which creates a cohesive research program.

PRN members currently supervise 12 Nursing PhD students 8 MSc students. Eleven Masters’ students convocated in 2010. M. Harrison co-supervising a PhD student in Rehabilitation Sciences who also graduated in 2010. As a group we ensure that all students receive the maximum number of opportunities to develop as researchers by involving them in nursing research projects, linking them with nurse scholars at different universities, and including them on new PRN projects. Three PhD students have received federal funding (E. Dogherty, E. Mann and K.A. Hogan).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master of Science</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Year of Graduation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatmah Fallatah</td>
<td>Dana Edge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julia Nijboer</td>
<td>Joan Tranmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lydia Vrhovnik</td>
<td>Kim Sears &amp; Jenny Medves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robin Bilton</td>
<td>Dana Edge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristen Farrell</td>
<td>Judy de Wolfe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanja Visekruna</td>
<td>Dana Edge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oni Busola</td>
<td>Diane Buchanan</td>
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<td>Shannon Parry</td>
<td>Diane Buchanan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Reitsma</td>
<td>Elizabeth VanDenKerkhof</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Xiao</td>
<td>Cynthia Baker</td>
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<td>Danielle Berard</td>
<td>Joan Tranmer</td>
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<td>Lauren Rivard</td>
<td>Jennifer Medves</td>
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<td>Denise Wilson</td>
<td>Marianne Lamb</td>
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<td>Ibo Barbacy</td>
<td>Marianne Lamb</td>
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<td>Leia Deiters</td>
<td>Diane Buchanan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura MacIsaac</td>
<td>Margaret Harrison</td>
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<td>Megan Manning</td>
<td>Marianne Lamb</td>
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<td>Melissa TeBrake</td>
<td>Joan Tranmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Corrigan</td>
<td>Diane Buchanan</td>
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**Graduate Students supervised by PRN Scholars in 2010**

- Blue = Incoming Graduate Students
- Red = Graduated 2010

A total of 74 students are currently enrolled in the Graduate and Nurse Practitioner programs. In 2010 9 Masters’ students enrolled, and 11 Masters graduated; 3 PhD students enrolled and 1 PhD graduated; 17 Nurse Practitioner students enrolled.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>PhD (Nursing)</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
<th>Year of Graduation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lenora Duhn</td>
<td>Jennifer Medves</td>
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<td>Busola Oni</td>
<td>Joan Tranmer</td>
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<td>Stacey Karp</td>
<td>Diane Buchanan</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Dogherty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerry-Anne Hogan</td>
<td>Jennifer Medves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judeline Innocent</td>
<td>Cynthia Baker and Diane Buchanan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gail Macartney</td>
<td>Margaret Harrison</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Mann</td>
<td>Elizabeth VanDenKerkhof</td>
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<td>Jane Tyerman</td>
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<td>Amanda Digel</td>
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<td>Julie Langlois</td>
<td>Jennifer Medves</td>
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<td>Jennifer Perry</td>
<td>Elizabeth VanDenKerkhof</td>
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<th>PhD (Rehabilitation Sciences):</th>
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<tr>
<td>Christina Godfrey</td>
<td>Margaret Harrison</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<th>MSc (Primary Health Care):</th>
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<tr>
<td>Edgar, Kate</td>
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<td>Murphy (Bruder), Michelle</td>
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<td>Hagerman, Lindsay</td>
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<td>Innocent, Myriam</td>
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<td>Maylin, Sara</td>
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<td>Lollar, Karen</td>
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<td>Musgrave, Pamela</td>
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<td>McKeen, Kaleigh</td>
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<td>O’Neill, Erin</td>
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<td>Woods, Katie</td>
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<th>Nurse Practitioner Students:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allen, Meaghan</td>
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<td>Brennan, Alexandra</td>
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<td>Elkarib, Amna</td>
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<td>Lane, Sherri</td>
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<td>Vandermeulen, Jennifer</td>
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<td>McDermid, Anne</td>
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<td>McDowell, Christine</td>
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<td>Newman, Kristine</td>
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<td>Nizar, Kareema</td>
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<td>Scott (nee Allen), Cheryl</td>
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<td>O’Brien, Kirstie</td>
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SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Red = PRN Senior Scholars; Blue = PRN Scholars & Practice-based Scholars; Green = PRN Fellows

New Research Grants Submitted

10 Research Grant Applications submitted in 2010 (8 as Principal or Co-Principal Investigator)


Tranmer, J. (PI) Co-applicants: Madarnas, Y., Aiken, A., Groll, D., Puts, M., Birtwhistle, R. Development and pilot evaluation of a transitional model of rehabilitative care for older women living with breast cancer in their community. CBCF Operating Grant 2010-2011

Tranmer, J. (PI) Co-applicants: Edge, D., VanDenKerkhof, E. Defining and optimizing nursing contribution to chronic disease care within the primary care setting. CIHR Meeting Planning and Dissemination Grant ($25,000) 2010

Mann E. & VanDenKerkhof, E.G. (coPI) (Supervisor): Canadian Institute of Health Research Doctoral Research Award. Coping with Chronic Pain: Can Self-Management Strategies Lead to Improved Health and Decreased Healthcare Use? ($105,000) 2010


Godfrey, C., & Harrison, M.B. (coPI) Safety, risk and adverse events with chronic disease management and therapeutic self care. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Knowledge Translation Synthesis Grant ($100,000) 2010-2011

Harrison, M.B. (coPI) & Hopp, L. Implementation Science and Synthesis Network of the Americas (ISSNA). Canadian Institutes for Health Research Meetings & Dissemination($50,000) 2010-2011

Harrison, M.B. (coPI) & Hopp, L. Moving Safety Knowledge into Action: Building Capacity for Systematic Review. Canadian Institutes for Health Research Meetings & Dissemination ($50,000) 2010-2011


New Research Grants 2010

8 Research project grant applications were successful in 2010
7 as Principal/co-Principal Investigator, for an overall total of $399,500 new funding in 2010

Tranmer, J. (PI), Co-applicants: VanDenKerkhof, E., Edge, D., McColl, M., Birtwhistle, R., Green, M. Defining nursing contribution within primary care practices. Primary Health Care System Program Ministry of Health and Longterm Care ($10,000) 2010–2011


Harrison, M.B (co-PI) & VandenKerkhof, E. (co-PI). Canadian Wound Health Services Trial: Next steps for practice and policy. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Meetings & Dissemination Grant ($34,000) 2010-2011.

Tranmer J. (PI) Co-applicants: Edge D., & VanDenKerkhof, E.G. Defining Nursing Contributions within Primary Care Practice. Primary Health Care System Program ($10,000) 2010


Harrison, M.B. (co-PI), Keeping-Burke, L. (co-PI). Project 1: Safety Literature in Home Care in Canada. Canadian Patient Safety Institute ($81,000) 2010

Research Grants, Continuing

Horgan, S. (PI) Co-applicants: Medves, J. & LeClair, K. Understanding the interaction between culture and context: Developing sustainable interprofessional, intersectoral knowledge transfer. MICT project HealthForceOntario. 2008-2010


PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Papers as First or Senior Author

19 Peer reviewed papers, 6 in press, 5 as first author, 3 as senior author


**Chapters**


Reports


Presentations

International


Harrison, M.B. Supporting patient safety through an academic-practice partnership for evidence use. 7th Biennial Joanna Briggs International Colloquium, Chicago IL USA. September 13, 2010

Harrison, M.B. Activating knowledge – A planned action framework. 7th Biennial Joanna Briggs International Colloquium, Chicago IL USA. September 14, 2010


National


Harrison, M.B. Keynote. The Knowledge to Action Cycle. Building Bridges III: Connecting the Dots...Best Practice, Research, Knowledge Translation and Policy for Wound Care. St. Michael’s Hospital, Wound Healing and Skin Ulcer Prevention Program, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. April 16-17, 2010

Harrison, M.B. Venous leg ulcers and compression: Results from the Canadian bandaging trial. Building Bridges III: Connecting the Dots...Best Practice, Research, Knowledge Translation and Policy for Wound Care. St. Michael’s Hospital, Wound Healing and Skin Ulcer Prevention Program, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. April 16-17, 2010


Walker S, Harrison MB, Hopman W, & VanDenKerkhof EG. The association between psychological characteristics and pain in women waiting for gynaecological surgery. Canadian Pain Society Annual Meeting, Calgary. (1 of 5 abstracts accepted for “Hot Topics”). June 2010

Tranmer, J. Preparing an effective knowledge translation grant: What are the reviewers and decision makers looking for? Invited presentation, Webinar: CIHR, Ottawa, Ontario. September 2010


Luctkar-Flude, M., Groll, D., & Tranmer, J. Fatigue, physical activity, physical functioning and quality of life in older women with breast cancer. 2nd International Cancer Fatigue Symposium. Montreal, Quebec. October 2010


Harrison, M.B. Keynote Speaker. A Continuing Journey of Evidence-Informed Practice with Leg Ulcer Care from needs assessment to randomized controlled trials. Canadian Association of Wound Care 16th International Annual Conference, Calgary, Alberta, November 4-11, 2010


Regional


Tranmer, J. Olympic gold vs. Fat Nation: Work environment and obesity. Community Health and Epidemiology Seminar Series, Queen’s University, Kingston, February 2010


O’Riordan, A., Schroder, C., Delgarno, N, Goldstein, D., Medves, J. et al. Collaborative efforts to improve patient safety. CCME. May 2010

Tranmer, J. Where to next... Preserving the health of the nursing workforce . Invited presentation, Annual Nursing Research Symposium, Queen’s School of Nursing, Queen’s University. May 2010


Harrison, M.B. Journey from Care Gap to Nursing Research: The importance of practice knowledge. Nursing Research: Enhancing Patient Care. Annual Nursing Research Conference, Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario. May 2010

Dogherty, E.J., Harrison, M.B., Tranmer, J., & VanDenKerkhof, E.G. A comparison between four layer compression bandages versus short stretch in relation to pain at the time of venous leg ulcer healing: a secondary analysis of the community bandaging trial. Queen’s University Health Sciences Research Trainee Conference, Queen’s University, Kingston. May 2010

Innocent, J, Harrison M.B., Tranmer, J., & VanDenKerkhof, E.G. Predictive factors associated with prolonged leg ulcer healing. Abstract submitted to the Queen’s University Health Sciences Research Trainee Conference, Queen’s University, Kingston. June 2010

Mann E, Harrison, M.B., Tranmer, J., & VanDenKerkhof, E.G. Persistent pain after venous ulcer healing: A secondary analysis of the Community Bandaging Trial. Queen’s University Health Sciences Research Trainee Conference, Queen’s University, Kingston. June 2010


APPENDICES

Practice and Research in Nursing Group Fact sheet

Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration for Patient Safety Fact Sheet
Practice and Research in Nursing Group

The mission of the Practice and Research in Nursing Group (PRN) is to produce and use evidence to plan, implement and evaluate nursing practice change to promote improved outcomes (individual, provider and system).

Preamble
The Practice and Research in Nursing (PRN) group emerged as a formal collaboration in January 2003. The vision grew from the common philosophy, shared research foci, and the intellectual and scholarly benefits resulting from the collaboration of nurse scientists within the School of Nursing. As PRN grows, it encompasses interrelated research programs driven the provision of care across disease groupings and seeks to answer research questions related to patient and provider safety, self-management, and transitions in care for chronic illness in specific populations.

Membership
Membership consists of (1) senior scholars, nurse scientists with active research programs, (2) scholars, research-based and practice-based faculty whose research and scholarship interests are congruent with the PRN research mission and focus, and (3) PRN fellows, graduate students whose research and scholarship are congruent with PRN mission and focus.

Research Strategy
The research strategy of the PRN group is to produce and use evidence to plan, implement and evaluate practice and organizational changes to promote effectiveness and efficiency in nursing practice.

The PRN group targets specific areas of research and knowledge translation that are a high priority in clinical areas, particularly patient and provider safety and during transitions in care. These themes link all School of Nursing faculty in some way, and is key to establishing groups of nurse researchers who examine common themes and expertise in order to build capacity.

Strategic Plan
The strategic plan of the PRN group recognizes and acknowledges the goals and activities of our partner institutions in the Southeastern Ontario Health Sciences Centre (SEOHSC), the Faculty of Health Sciences. Our key goal is built upon the strengths and linkages within this academic Health Sciences Centre regionally, nationally and internationally, to create a focus of nursing research excellence of relevance to nursing practice.

Strategic Priorities of the PRN Group
1. Lead and conduct programs of innovative research to address health services issues of relevance to the discipline and practice of nursing;
2. Lead and conduct research and scholarly activities that contribute the science of knowledge translation at the point of care and transitions in care;
3. Develop and create research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate nursing students and practicing nurses;
4. Establish linkages locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to advance nursing practice relevant to scholarship and research
5. Build and maintain an organizational structure to support the research, knowledge translation, and training activities of the PRN Group.

PRN is increasingly acknowledged for its national and international collaborative research. PRN provides strong and vibrant leadership with visionary, yet feasible strategic priorities that are relevant to our key stakeholders.

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The Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration

The Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration has joined with its partners, the Queen’s University School of Nursing, the Canadian Patient Safety Institute and Accreditation Canada to establish a pan-Canadian centre for patient safety (QJBC-PS). Our mandate is to provide cohesive leadership that will improve both access to, and uptake of, evidence on patient safety.

Preamble

In November 2009 the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Knowledge Syntheses and Exchange) granted QJBC 5-years funding to form a patient safety academic-policy partnership established by QJBC-PS, Accreditation Canada and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute.

Background

QJBC was first established in 2004 as the first North American collaborating centre of the Joanna Briggs Institute. QJBC was established with funding from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to develop a regional academic-practice partnership with the School of Nursing and the South Eastern Ontario Health Sciences Centre. As a major initiative of the School of Nursing’s Practice and Research in Nursing Group, its goal has been to improve health care delivery in our region. With the support of our practice partners, QJBC has evolved into an active and productive knowledge translation model. This academic-practice partnership has provided QJBC with a firm foundation on which to further develop this centre beyond its regional scope into a Pan-Canadian academic-policy effort.

Since 2004, QJBC members have mentored students and clinical trainees both independently and as an integrated part of the School of Nursing curriculum. QJBC offers annually an intensive five-day workshop to train nurse scientists and graduate students from across Canada through systematic review methodologies.

The Patient Safety Initiative

QJBC-PS has a dual focus: ‘knowledge generation’ and ‘knowledge to action’. Knowledge generation tailors knowledge for use in practice through syntheses and systematic reviews of best available patient safety evidence drawn from primary studies. It also includes development of knowledge products such as adapted guidelines. Knowledge-to-action activity involves working collaboratively with our partners to establish priorities for evidence synthesis and develop a network of stakeholders and a ‘community of practice’, to promote evidence use in patient safety.

Implications to Policy, Research & Practice, and Education

The goal of knowledge translation in health care is to improve quality of care. The twofold venture of the partnership will: 1) provide access to the best available evidence for patient safety in identified priority areas, thereby facilitating an increased awareness and knowledge about safety issues and current research in the area; and 2) engage users in discussions concerning the applicability or appropriateness of the information to their circumstances across the continuum of care. In addition, QJBC will actively engage with patient advocacy groups such as Patients for Patient Safety Canada to provide the patient/family perspective and to prioritize QJBC’s research. QJBC-PS will conduct systematic reviews relevant to partner issues on priority patient safety topics identified by stakeholders, and will provide support and training for guideline adaptation to various contexts.

QJBC-PS Team

The QJBC team is comprised of academic and clinically-based faculty, library scientists, methodologists and core research staff located at the Queen’s University School of Nursing.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Margaret B. Harrison


Collaborators: C. Pulling, J. Peterson, & J. DeWolfe

QJBC Research Staff: J. McVeety (Patient Safety Officer); V. Donaldson (Project Officer); C. Godfrey (Methodologist); A. Ross-White (Library Scientist); V. Angus (Business Officer)

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