



COLLEGE OF NURSING

We Care for Life!

RESEARCH REPORT 2013 - 2015



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MESSAGE OF THE DEAN



Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh
Dean, College of Nursing

The College of Nursing has never been this glorious in the field of research and evidence-based practice with the past three academic years. I am proud, as the Dean of the College of Nursing, that the faculty members of the college has been so productive and energetic to inquire and build evidence for the health of Oman and development of the nursing profession. The research quality and quantity of the faculty members has improved for the past 3 years owing to the intensified faculty research capability program, enhance research policies and procedures and commitment of the College of Nursing administration and faculty to the mandates of the university to scholarly and research activities.

The College of Nursing has published 127 number of manuscripts and scholarly works during the period from 2013 to 2015, magnifying an increase for the past years. Despite the challenges of faculty turn-over, the college has maintained its disposition as a hub of innovation and inquiry by steadily producing relevant research findings and ideas to improve the health of the society.

The research capacity-building programs in partnership with the different centers and development units of the Sultan Qaboos University, invited guests and external examiners and local experts of research, have enabled the College to move towards the production of evidence and scholarly activities. The College also has prepared a database to continually monitor the progression of the faculty members' research quality and quantity. The opportunities for funding and support for research are vast and provided faculty members the foundation to develop their proposals and implement their research. Faculty members were also able to collaborate with various professions to conduct research and scholarship giving them a more comprehensive and inter-professional view on knowledge and research philosophies. Since the implementation of a more rigorous research capability building program, the faculty research output increased for approximately 200% since 2013. The faculty members received various research awards and were invited to review different international journals. The faculty were also provided significant support in their research presentation in national and international arena through the university funds. They were also invited to different conferences, forums and consultative meetings.

The College of Nursing also has been able to integrate in its academic processes the use of evidence-based practice, as an integral part of education for its nursing students. The nursing students are trained, developed and prepared to be the leaders and agents of change through research and inquiry. All courses of the College have incorporated EBP as part of their learning and teaching processes.

With the implementation of the first MSN program in the Sultanate of Oman this coming years, the College of Nursing continually envisions to be the leader of research, education and service in the Region. Owing to this multi-factorial support from various stakeholders, the College of Nursing will continually lead the profession and the university in serving Oman and the entire Arab World through research and scholarly output. It is my pride, as the college Dean, to be with roster of faculty members in an every-supportive University.

Kudos College of Nursing!

Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh
Dean, College of Nursing

MESSAGE OF THE ASSISTANT DEAN



Dr. Erna Judith Roach
*Asst. Dean for Research and Post
Graduate Studies*

The College of Nursing (CON) at SQU has a vibrant research culture with focus on the health care of the Omani society. The Deanship of Research at SQU supports CON by funding most of the research projects. The CON provides a positive and encouraging environment for all faculty in conducting research which has subsequently led to increased number of research projects being conducted when compared to the previous years. The first Post graduate program in nursing ,the Master of Science in Nursing is intended to commence in Fall Semester 2016. The postgraduate program will act as a gateway for students to undertake important areas of research and provide evidence for the best practices in the region.

The CON strives to make research stronger with an ambition to create a genuine impact on the Omani society as well as to enhance the international reputation with more impactful research in the field of nursing education and practice. The research areas mainly focused on simulation for nursing courses, academic entitlement and incivility in nursing education nursing practice environment, autistic spectrum disorder, diabetic foot care and Omani father's engagement in children development. The scholarly activities of faculty also included research publications, conference attendance and presentations, and publication of books. Faculty maintained their participation as journals' editors and reviewers thus enhancing the image of the University and the College regionally and internationally.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Erna Judith Roach
Assistant Dean, Research and Postgraduate Studies

FACTS AT A GLANCE (2013—2015)

RESEARCH OUTPUTS

84     publications

2   books

36    conference proceedings

1  book chapter

FACULTY INVOLVEMENT

46    authors

    **19** journal reviewers

280     **CITATIONS**

SPONSORED RESEARCH AWARDS  

111,595 OR    

10 internal grants
6 dean's fund

1HM 1TRC
FURAP

RESEARCH FUNDING (2013—2015)

Since its inception in 2008, the college has been very active in submitting research proposals for funding. From 2013 to 2015, the college received over one hundred thousand Oman Rials research fund. Figure 1 shows the total amount of research grants from 2013 to 2015.

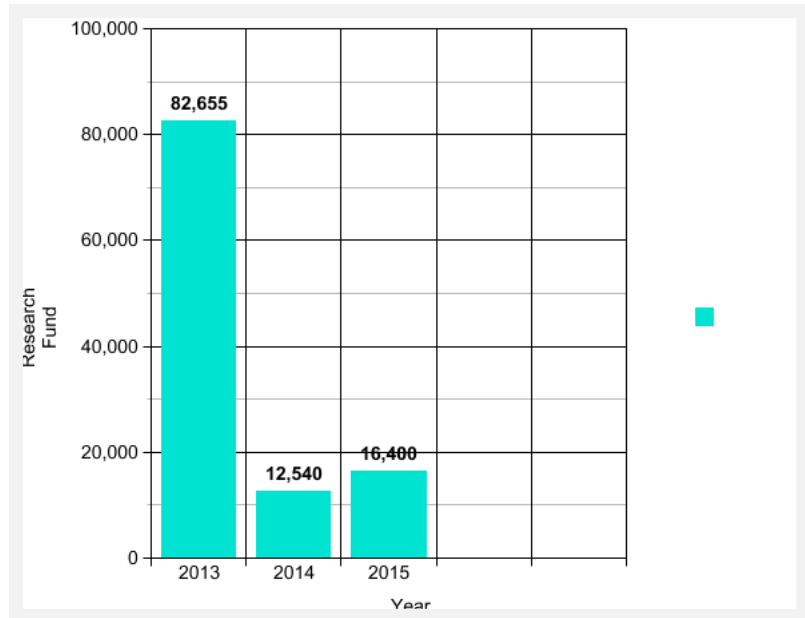


Figure 1. Research Funding (2013—2015)

In the three-year period, the majority of the faculty research were funded thru the university's internal grant. Figure 2 reflects the different sources of research fund according to fiscal year.

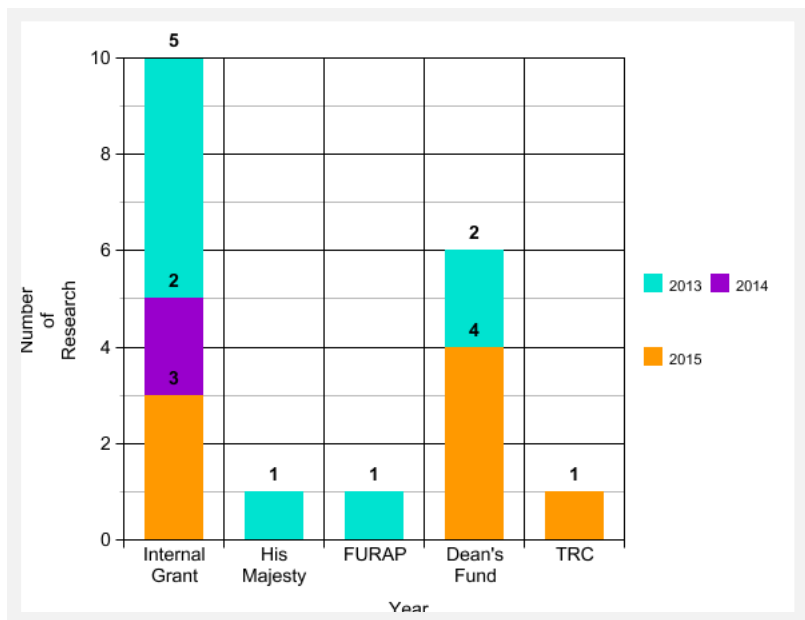


Figure 2. Sources of Research Fund according to Fiscal Year

FUNDED RESEARCH (2015)



PERCEIVED ACADEMIC ENTITLEMENT AND INCIVILITY IN NURSING EDUCATION: DIFFERENCES BETWEEN NURSING FACULTY AT SQU COLLEGE OF NURSING

Principal Investigator: Jansi Rani Natarajan

Fund Source: Internal Grant (2700)

This study aims to explore the extent of academic incivility and academic entitlement in a University based Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. The study will be conducted at the College of Nursing at SQU (SQU-CON). The participants for this study will be NF and NS at the SQU-CON. A non-experimental cross sectional design using a self-administered questionnaire (SAQ) will be used to collect data from 58 NF and 317 NS. The SAQ for NF will be composed of a standardized scale called the Incivility in Nursing Education Survey (INE). The SAQ for NS will be composed of 2 standardized scales i.e. the INE and the Academic Entitlement Scale. Main Outcomes Measured: Descriptive statistics will be used to describe the prevalence of common uncivil behaviors. The t-test statistic will be used to examine the difference between NF and NS perceived academic incivility. Chi-square statistic will be used to examine relationships between perceived academic incivility, academic entitlement and other factors. Therefore the findings of this study will provide information about the perceptions of NF and NS about incivility, perceived common uncivil behaviors, the prevalence of NS academic entitlement and factors associated with NS academic entitlement.

EFFICACY OF HIGH FIDELITY SIMULATOR IN AN UNDERGRADUATE NURSING CURRICULUM

Principal Investigator: Savithri Raman

Fund Source: Internal Grant (5800 OR)

Simulation is creation of an event, situation, or environment that closely mirrors “real world”. Simulation occurs at varying levels of fidelity. Although various forms of simulation exists in nursing education, researches on acceptable forms of simulation with higher level of student learning outcomes is under researched in nursing education. The purpose of the proposed study is to assess the efficacy of High fidelity simulator (HFS) in nursing curriculum at College of Nursing. An experimental study will be utilized to assess the efficacy of HFS of students registered in maternity clinical nursing courses. Reliable and valid tools developed by the National League for Nursing (2007) will be used. Ethical approval will be obtained from the College Research & Ethics Committee. Inferential statistics t-test and ANOVA will be used to examine the extent to which student’s learning outcomes, simulation design, educational practices are effective in using HFS. The proposed study will enable to sustain simulation (SIM) as blended learning strategy to train nursing students and create dashboard of student learning outcomes in the undergraduate curriculum. It will also aid in establishing infrastructure, continuous quality improvement, fostering excellence and sustainability of the SIM programs at CON.



FUNDED RESEARCH



EVALUATION OF SIMULATION FOR NURSING COURSES: STUDENT AND FACULTY PERSPECTIVES

Principal Investigator: Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh

Fund Course: Internal Grant (6500 OR)

The Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) College of Nursing (CON) has implemented a simulation center for excellence in nursing practice. For the Fall of 2014, the college adopted a policy to incorporate 10% of curricular activity as a SIM lab experience. In The purpose of the proposed study is to evaluate the effect of SIM education on student and faculty at the Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) College of Nursing. A mixed method design will be utilized to evaluate the simulation experience of students and faculty for three nursing courses beginning February 2015. The Nursing Education SIM Framework developed by Jeffries (2007) guides our research question. Reliable and valid tools developed by the National League for Nursing Laerdal NLN study group and Jeffries et al., (2007) will be used. One Hundred forty five (145) students and twenty (20) faculty of SQU—CON will participate in the study. Student learning outcomes will be assessed using descriptive and inferential statistics (SPSS, version 21) and faculty perspectives will be analyzed using thematic analysis. Data collected will help to create a dashboard of measures that trend growth and outcomes of the SIM laboratory will be developed by faculty to ensure continuous quality improvement of the program.

OMANI FATHERS' ENGAGEMENT IN CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT: PARENTS' PERSPECTIVE

Principal Investigator: Nisreen Mohammed Al Nuami

Source of Fund: Dean's Fund

In recent decades there is emerging demands of shared responsibility of parenting. Fathers are now confronted with a more intense support and engagement to the health of their wives, children and family, in general. Even it is well documented that there is positive influence of such engagement on both short term and long term children development, the involvement of Omani fathers in their children's development have not been studied thoroughly. This cross sectional survey aimed to determine the demographic characteristics of Omani parents and determine fathers' level of engagement to their child development, and to further validate their engagement with their wives. After the approval of the College of Nursing Research and Ethical Committee, the tool named "Role of the Father Questionnaire" (Palkovit, 1984) that consists of 15 items of a 5 point-Likert scale will be used. The data will be analyzed using SPSS version 22. Descriptive statistics will be used to describe and characterize the participants. Descriptive statistics will be used for measuring mean-variance and SD. T-test, Chi- square will be used to examine the significance of correlation. Person correlation coefficient will be used to analyze the relationship between the variables, and multiple linear regression to study the relationship between the variables.



FUNDED RESEARCH



NURSING PRACTICE ENVIRONMENT, JOB OUTCOMES, AND QUALITY OF PATIENT CARE IN OMAN, A PILOT STUDY

Principal Investigator: Alaa Al Bashayreh

Fund Source: Dean's Fund (200 OR)

This pilot study aspires to explore the feasibility of a future large-scale research project to establish baseline measures of nursing workforce and quality of patient care in the Sultanate of Oman through systematic surveys of patients and nurses in order to gain knowledge for policy making and strategy development at a national level. A cross sectional descriptive research design will be used as it is the most appropriate type to achieve aim of this pilot study. The target population will be all available patients and nurses in the target setting. A convenience sampling technique will be used to recruit a large number of participants in cost and time effective way. Three self-administered surveys will be used to collect data from patients, nurses and units to achieve aims of this study. Patient survey comprises demographic data, bill of patient's rights, and patient satisfaction with nursing care quality questionnaire. Nurse survey comprises demographic data, quality of the nursing practice environment, job satisfaction and intention to stay at work, and nurse-reported quality patient outcomes. Unit survey comprises unit profile and statistics. Systematic surveys will be administered to collect data from patients, nurses and units over a period of four months from January to April, 2016. Findings of the current study will be utilized to update the base of knowledge about the current status of the nursing practice environment, nurse working conditions, and quality of care. In addition, findings will address and explain the impact of some organizational factors on nursing practice environment, nurse working conditions, and quality of patient care.

QUALITY OF LIFE IN PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER IN OMAN

Principal Investigator: Ms. Bassema Abu Farsakh

Fund Source: Dean's Fund (200 OR)

The major purpose of this study is to assess the Quality of Life among parents of Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD). As well as, to identify other factors that influences Quality of Life of parents of children with ASD. The specific objectives of this study are : (1) To assess the QOL in parents of children suffering from ASD; (2) To identify the predictive factors that affect QOL among parents of children with ASD, and (3) To explore the association between socio-demographic, perceived social support and clinical variables on QOL among parents of children with ASD. A quantitative approach using cross-sectional, descriptive research design (Questionnaire) will be used in this study. The study will be conducted during the period from November 2015 and July 2016. Convenient sampling technique will be used to recruit 150 parents from the child follow-up psychiatric clinic in Sultan Qaboos University Hospital and Al Massara Hospital (Muscat). Parents of children with a diagnosis of ASD according to Diagnostic Statistical Manual (DSM-VI) will be invited to take part in the study. Ethical consideration the approval from Research and Ethics Committee at College of Nursing - Sultan Qaboos University- Oman will be obtained. Confidentiality and anonymity will be maintained through the study. Data management and analysis will be performed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 21.0. Descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, and Multiple regressions will be used to analyze the data.



FUNDED RESEARCH



DIABETIC FOOT CARE PRINCIPLES AND PERCIEVED BARRIERS OF OMANI TYPE 2 DIABETES PATIENTS

Faculty Mentor: Ms. Joy Kabasindi Kamanyire

Student Team Members: Shamsa Khlafan Saud Al Mandhari, Raya Khalfan Ali Al Habsi

The aim of the study is to assess the foot care practices of type 2 diabetes Omani patients and the perceived barriers to implementation of recommended foot care behavior. A descriptive cross-sectional study design will guide the study that will be conducted among patients visiting the diabetic clinical in Sultan Qaboos University. It will involve participants filling in a self-administered questions for the quantitative part and engaging in FGD for the qualitative part. All Omani patients with a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes mellitus visiting the diabetic clinic will be requested to enroll into the study. Participants will recruited using convenience sampling technique. The foot care practices of the patients will be collected by the validated Nottingham Assessment of Functional Foot care (NAFFC). Perceived barriers to foot care practice will be measured using the barriers to foot self-care questions developed by Seid & Tsige (2015). All Study variables will be analyzed using descriptive statistics and will be represented as frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation. Multiple linear regression analysis will be used to assess the association between demographics and perceived barriers. The focuses group discussions will be translated and transcribed and the data will be analyzed using framework method for analysis of qualitative data.

PROSTATE CANCER KNOWLEDGE AND INTENTION TO SCREEN IN OMANI MEN

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Joshua Muliira

Student Team Members: Assad Nasser Samil Ali Al Yahyai, Hazza Sami Khalf Al Saidi

There is no study which has specifically explored prostate cancer screening behaviors or interventions to enhance screening in Omani men. This study will provide important insights about Omani men's understanding of prostate cancer, intention to engage prostate cancer screening, and perceived barriers to screening. The findings will also provide baseline information that can be used by future studies to testing interventions to enhance awareness, cancer prevention, screening behaviors and early diagnosis. The study generally contributes to the Ministry of Health goal of addressing the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases and its impact on quality of life and well being of Omani people. By focusing on prostate cancer, this study addresses a health problem that affects a population that is mostly under studied in Oman (Omani men). The findings of the study may also be utilized to streamline healthcare delivery in a way that put special emphasis on men's health and non-communicable health problems that specifically affect men. Therefore the aim of this study is to explore Omani men's PCa knowledge, intention to screen and perceived barriers to screening.



FUNDED RESEARCH (2014)

IMPACT OF DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SELF CARE AMONG OMANI ADULTS WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES MELLITUS

Principal Investigator: Dr. Melba Sheila D' Souza

Fund Source: Internal Grant (7900 OR)



Enhancing self-efficacy and self-care activities for adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) are ongoing challenges for nurses. Effective diabetes education program among adults with T2DM relies on educational interventions. This study aims to examine the effectiveness of diabetes education program on adherence to self-care activities, self-efficacy and glycosylated haemoglobin (HbA1c) among adults with T2DM in Oman. Randomized controlled trial will be conducted in the diabetes clinics in a public hospital among Omani adults aged 18 years and above with known T2DM. A total of 160 Omani adults with T2DM will be randomly assigned to either an intervention group (n=80) or a control group (n=80) after informed consent, screening for eligibility criteria and baseline testing. The intervention group will have a diabetes education program for 3 days (9 hours) delivered in the diabetes clinics. The outcome measures will be adherence to self-care, self-efficacy and HbA1c at baseline and end of intervention (3 and 6 months) for both groups. Self-care management should include strategies that enable adults with T2DM to manage diabetes effectively and facilitate improved HbA1c. The diabetes education program provided by the diabetes nurse educators will be culturally tailored for adults with T2DM in Oman based on baseline information. Implementation of diabetes education program that address the key issues in adherence and self-management of diabetes will be useful for glycemic control among adults with T2DM in Oman. There is a need for a diabetes nurse educator in hospitals for improving diabetes self-management.

COMPLICATIONS IN PATIENTS UNDERGOING CLEAN ELECTIVE GENERAL SURGERY AT A MIDDLE EASTERN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN THE SULTANATE OF OMAN

Principal Investigator: Dr. Gerald Matua Amandu

Fund Source: Internal Grant (4550 OR)

The main aim of the study is to determine the nature and outcomes of the common surgical complications following surgery. The study will use a descriptive, retrospective design to generate data from patients admitted for clean elective general surgery up to the point of discharge. This study will be conducted at Sultan Qaboos University Hospital (SQUH) in Sultanate of Oman. The records of all elective general surgeries performed at SQUH between January 2012 and December 2012 shall be retrospectively retrieved through the hospital electronic patient record system, the Trakcare® system. The complication books in the operating room and the various adult surgical wards included shall be reviewed as well to enhance data triangulation. Data management and analysis will be performed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 18.0, for MS Windows version. Measures of distribution, central tendencies and cross tabulations between related variables will be used to summarize research findings, and a .05 criterion for statistical significance will be employed for data analyses.





FUNDED RESEARCH (2013)

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCES, AND BARRIERS TO COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING: A SURVEY OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WORKING IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS

Principal Investigator: Dr. Joshua Kanaabi Muliira

Fund Course: Internal Grant (2205 OR)

HYPERTENSION KNOWLEDGE, AWARENESS, MEDICATION ADHERENCE AND LIFESTYLE BEHAVIORS AMONG HYPERTENSIVE PATIENTS IN OMAN

Principal Investigator: Dr. Ali Ammouri

Fund Source: Internal Grant (2900 OR)

PERCEPTIONS AND EXPERIENCES OF PRECEPTORS OF CLINICALLY MENTORED FINAL YEAR NURSING STUDENTS AT SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY

Principal Investigator: Dr. Gerald Amandu Matua

Fund Course: Internal Grant (1680 OR)

EFFECTIVENESS OF CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION INTERVENTION ON ANXIETY AND PREGNANCY OUTCOMES AMONG OMANI WOMEN

Principal Investigator: Dr. Girija Madhavanprabhakaran

Fund Source: Internal Grant (4800 OR)

EFFECT OF AN EDUCATIONAL INTERVENTION ON ANEMIA IN PREGNANCY

Principal Investigator: Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh

Fund Course: Internal Grant (7768 OR)



FUNDED RESEARCH (2013)

THE IMPACT OF ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD SYSTEM'S USABILITY ON PRACTICING NURSE

Principal Investigator: Dr. Ahmad Abu Raddaha

Fund Course: Internal Grant (2205 OR)

BREAST CANCER IN OMAN: A MULTIPHASE STUDY TO EXAMINE BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AMONG OMANI WOMEN

Principal Investigator: Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh

Fund Source: Internal Grant (2900 OR)

PREDICTORS OF ROUTINE EPISIOTOMY IN PRIMIGRAVIDA WOMEN AMONG HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Principal Investigator: Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh

Fund Course: Internal Grant (1680 OR)

THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SCHOOL BACKPACK AND BACK ABNORMALITIES AMONG SCHOOL GIRLS STUDYING AT MUSCAT GOVERNMENTAL SCHOOLS

Principal Investigator: Basma Al Yazeedi

Fund Source: Internal Grant (4800 OR)

BIBLIOMETRIC INDICATORS

For the past three years, the college registered a significant increased (254%) in the number of citations when compared to 2013. Figure 4 shows that the Adult Health and Critical Care Department had the highest number of citations in 2015.

Figure 3. Academic Year 2013 to 2015 Citation Growth

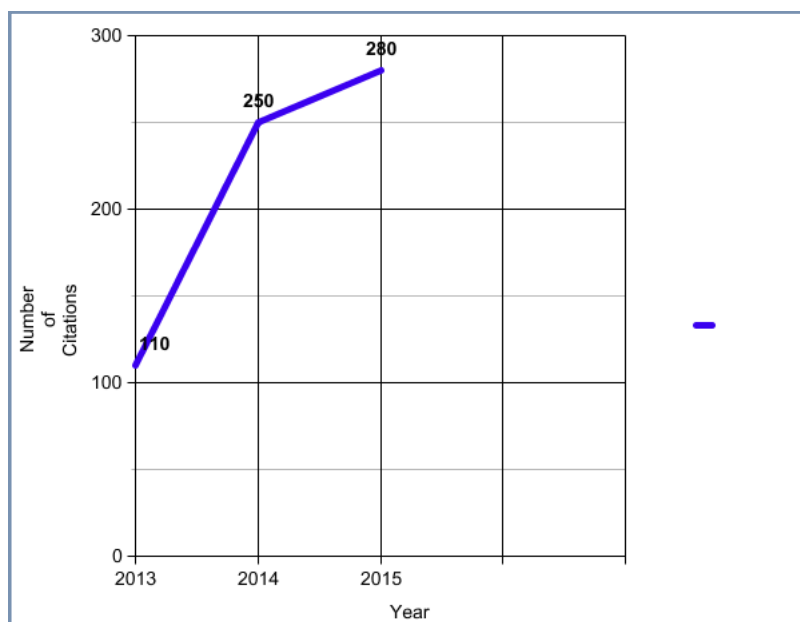
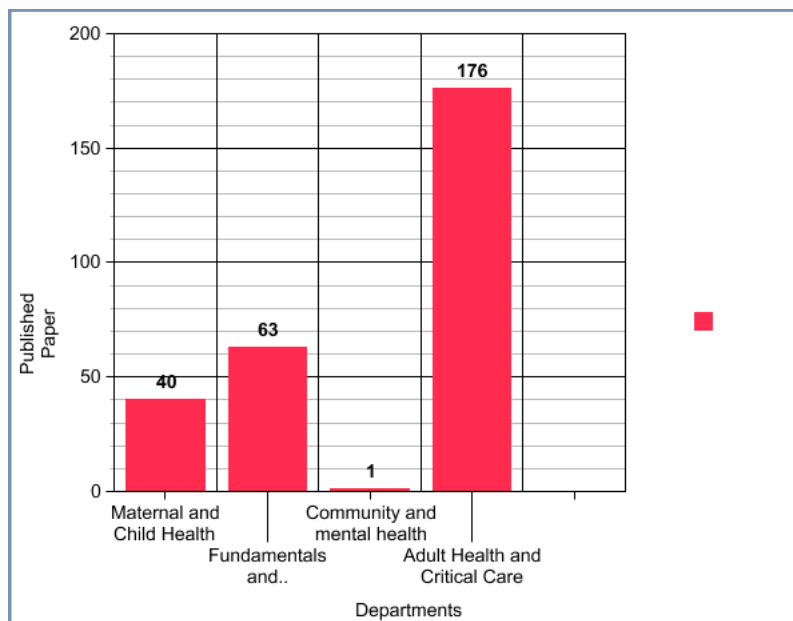
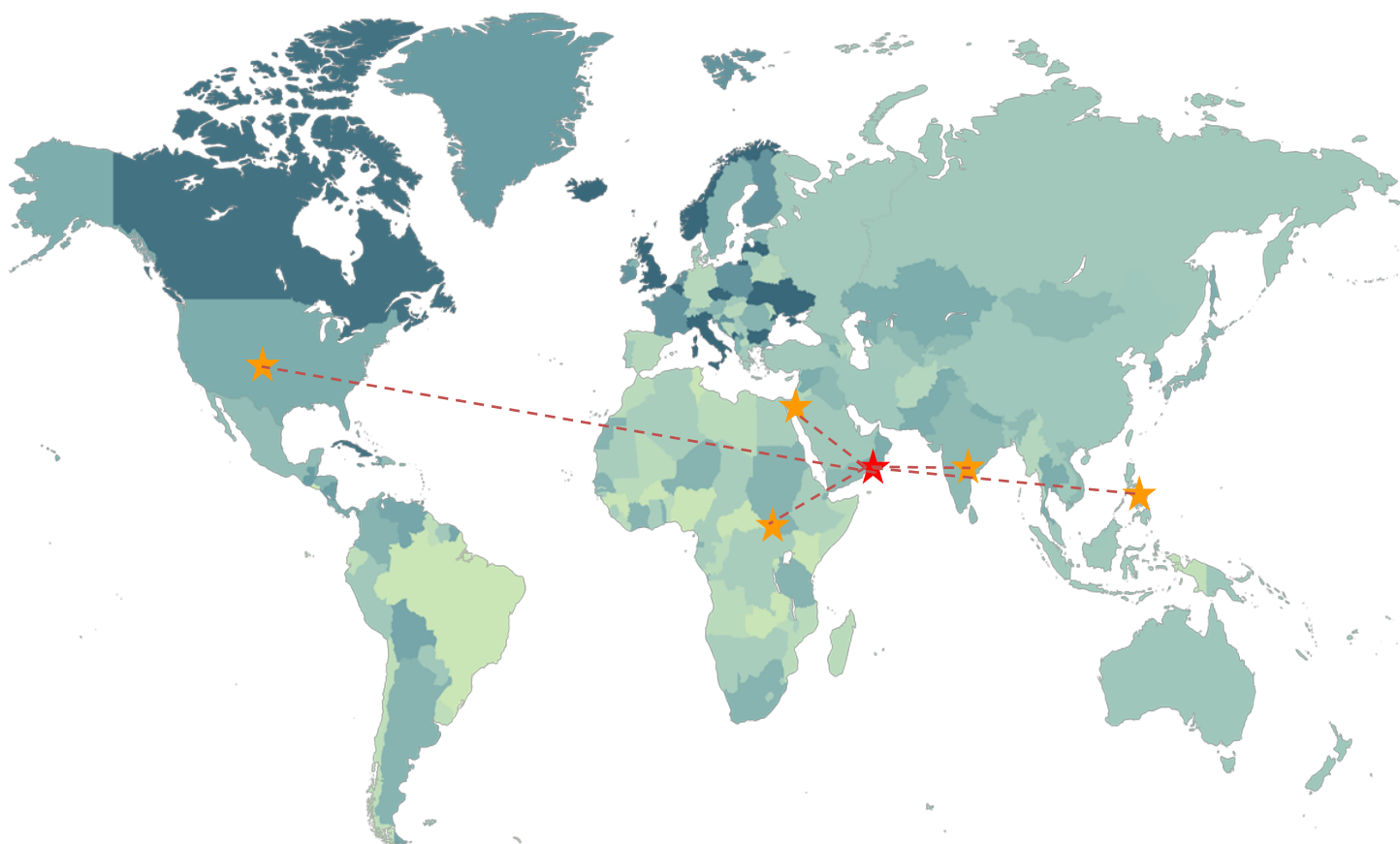


Figure 4. Academic Year 2015 Citations by Department



RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS



S QU – College of Nursing researchers have successfully collaborated globally in the following areas:

1. Women's Health
2. Nursing Education
3. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
4. Nursing Practice
5. Communicable Disease Prevention

TOP FIVE COLLABORATING COUNTRIES

1. United State of America
2. India
3. Uganda
4. Jordan
5. Philippines

JOURNAL PUBLICATION AWARDS

In recognition for their outstanding work, seven (7) nursing faculty received journal publication award from the University for successfully publishing their papers in recognized journals (eg. Journal Citation Report (JCR), SCOPUS).

PREDICTORS OF HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS KNOWLEDGE AMONG JORDANIAN YOUTHS

Esra M. Al-Khasawneh, Leyla Ismayilova, Vidya Seshan, Olimat Hmoud, Nabila El-Bassel

Abstract

Understanding factors associated with the level of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) knowledge acquisition is crucial to inform preventative programmes for young people. This study examines predictors of HIV knowledge among Jordanian youths. A cross-sectional survey was conducted among 8,129 youths aged between 14 and 25 years randomly selected from schools representing each of the 12 governorates of Jordan. A total of 50% of respondents were female and, on average, 17 years old. Participants completed a self-administered questionnaire covering sociodemographic characteristics, HIV knowledge, gender awareness, exposure to and favourable attitudes toward risky behaviours. On a 13-item HIV knowledge test, participants answered an average of 7 questions correctly (mean = 7.21; standard deviation = 2.63). Female respondents from rural areas demonstrated significantly lower levels of HIV knowledge, while college and university students demonstrated higher levels. HIV knowledge differed significantly by sources of information, with peer-acquired information associated with more accuracy, while HIV information from parents or health centres was associated with a lower score. Youths with more egalitarian gender views also demonstrated higher knowledge levels, whereas youths approving of drug use showed lower levels of HIV knowledge. HIV education programmes in Jordan should focus on females and youths living in rural areas. Educational institutions have been shown to be effective in providing accurate information to students, while parents and health professionals should also be included in HIV prevention programmes in order to reduce misconceptions and raise the level of HIV knowledge among Jordanian youths.

Published in Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal

USING VARK TO ASSESS CHANGES IN LEARNING PREFERENCES OF NURSING STUDENTS AT A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN JORDAN: IMPLICATIONS FOR TEACHING

Esra M. Al Khasawneh

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to describe learning styles of nursing students at a public University in Jordan. A descriptive research design was used, a purposive sample of 197 nursing students who were enrolled in nursing summer courses. These students were at different academic levels. Almost 55% of students have a multimodal preference, about 60% of multimodal students have the kinesthetic learning preference (K) associated with visual or read write preference. The rest have one dominant learning preference. Of the 45% students who have one dominant preference: 60% had the kinesthetic preference as the dominant preference, and 40% had the auditory preference accompanied with another preference. Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) revealed significant difference between students based on their academic level. Nursing students have varied learning styles; teachers should accommodate their classes to meet the learning needs and styles of students. Multimodal learners can be more flexible about how they exchange information than those with a single preference. However, multimodal learners need to have at least two, three or four modes involved in learning before they are satisfied. Teachers at nursing program should use more than one teaching modality to be able to make their students satisfied with their learning experience.

Published in Nurse Education Today

JOURNAL PUBLICATION AWARDS

WOMEN'S WELL—BEING AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN INDIAN MINING COMMUNITY: NEED FOR EMPOWERMENT

Melba Sheila D'Souza, Subrahmanya Nairy Karkada, Ganesha Somayaji, Ramesh Venkatesaperumal

Abstract

This paper is a qualitative study of women's well-being and reproductive health status among married women in mining communities in India. An exploratory qualitative research design was conducted using purposive sampling among 40 selected married women in a rural Indian mining community. Ethical permission was obtained from Goa University. A semi-structured indepth interview guide was used to gather women's experiences and perceptions regarding well-being and reproductive health in 2010. These interviews were audiotaped, transcribed, verified, coded and then analyzed using qualitative content analysis. Early marriage, increased fertility, less birth intervals, son preference and lack of decision-making regarding reproductive health choices were found to affect women's reproductive health. Domestic violence, gender preference, husbands drinking behaviors, and low spousal communication were common experiences considered by women as factors leading to poor quality of marital relationship. Four main themes in confronting women's well-being are poor literacy and mobility, low employment and income generating opportunities, poor reproductive health choices and preferences and poor quality of martial relationships and communication. These determinants of physical, psychological and cultural well-being should be an essential part of nursing assessment in the primary care settings for informed actions. Nursing interventions should be directed towards participatory approach, informed decision making and empowering women towards better health and well-being in the mining community.

Published in Procedia—Social and Behavioral Sciences

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH HEALTH RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG INDIAN WOMEN IN MINING AND AGRICULTURE

Melba Sheila D'Souza, Subrahmanya Nairy Karkada, Ganesha Somayaji

Abstract

Women facing social and economic disadvantage in stressed communities of developing countries are at greater risk due to health problems. This paper investigates the relationships between structural, health and psychosocial predictors among women in mining and agricultural communities. This paper is a report of a study of the predictors of the health-related quality of life among Indian women in mining and agricultural communities. A descriptive cross-sectional research design was used. The instruments used are SF-36 Health Survey and Coping Strategy Checklist. ANOVA, MANOVA and GLM were used in the analysis. The study was conducted between January-September 2008 with randomly selected women in a mining (145) and an agricultural community (133) in India. Women in the agricultural community had significantly increased Physical Health, Mental Health and SF36 scores compared with those in the mining community. Years of stay, education and employment were significant predictors among women in the agricultural community. 39% (33%) and 40% (26%) of the variance in Physical and Mental health respectively among women in agricultural and mining communities are predicted by the structural, health and psychosocial variables. Perceived health status should be recognized as an important assessment of Physical and Mental Health among women in rural stressed communities. Cognitive, emotional and behavioral coping strategies are significant predictors of health related quality of life. Implications. Nurses should use the SF-36 as a diagnostic tool for assessing health related quality of life among women and discuss coping strategies, so that these can target women's adaptive behavior. This should be an essential part of the nursing process for facilitating adaptive process for improved health related quality of life.

Published Health and Quality of Life Outcomes

JOURNAL PUBLICATION AWARD

INTRODUCING A NEW CADRE INTO UGANDA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM: LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Gerald M. Amandu, Leana R Uys, Joseph Mwizerwa, Alex Erejod, Irene A Cheruto, Margaret Chota

Abstract

Uganda introduced Registered Comprehensive Nursing (RCN) and Enrolled Comprehensive Nursing (ECN) training programs in 1994 and 2003 respectively, to create certificate and diploma level cadre of nurses with competencies in general nursing, midwifery, public health, psychiatry, paediatrics and management. This paper is based on an evaluation study undertaken to assess how the programs were implemented including stakeholders' perceptions about the graduates. Despite being relevant, the implementation process of both programs failed to meet acceptable standards. We conclude that introducing a new cadre of nurses without proper preparation hinders realization of their full potential including their contribution to the healthcare system.

Published in Procedia—Social and Behavioral Sciences

USING MOODLE E—LEARNING PLATFORM TO FOSTER STUDENT SELF—DIRECTED LEARNING: EXPERIENCES WITH UTILIZATION OF THE SOFTWARE IN UNDERGRADUATE NURSING COURSES IN A MIDDLE EASTERN UNIVERSITY

Gerald Matua Amandu, Joshua Kanaabi Muliira, Dennis Cayaban Fronda

Abstract

Fostering student interest in self-directed learning (SDL) requires appropriate skills and innovative strategies by the teacher. However, many teachers find motivating students for SDL a challenging expectation. This paper, based on literature and authors' experience discusses how Moodle e-learning platform (MEP) has been used to successfully promote SDL among undergraduate nursing students at Sultan Qaboos University, College of Nursing, in Oman. We conclude that MEP enhances students' pre-class preparation, post-class participation and overall motivation for learning and that it is a user-friendly and affordable innovative teaching strategy that can be used to motivate, promote and sustain student interest in SDL.

Published in Procedia—Social and Behavioral Sciences

ATTITUDES OF STUDENTS AT SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY TOWARDS THE NURSING PROFESSION

Raghda K. Shukri, Bakkar S. Bakkar, Monther A. El-Damen, Samira M. Ahmed

Abstract

The aim of this study was to explore the attitudes of Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) students towards the nursing profession. A sample of 377 students (male = 130; female = 247) were selected from different colleges of SQU, including the College of Nursing. A questionnaire was constructed and validated to assess the attitudes of SQU students towards the nursing profession. Findings revealed that both male and female students in all academic years and colleges had positive attitudes toward the nursing profession. The findings also revealed that gender and academic year created no significant differences ($P < 0.05$) among the study participants, but that the students' college affiliation did have a significant effect on their attitudes. In particular, nursing students had more positive attitudes than students of other colleges. Findings indicated that the attitudes of SQU students towards the nursing profession were positive, especially those of the nursing students. This means that serious efforts should be made to continue to promote the nursing profession and so ensure that it remains positively regarded by all concerned.

Published in Sultan Qaboos University

JOURNAL PUBLICATION AWARD

SELF—REPORTED URINARY INCONTINENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH SYMPTOM SEVERITY IN COMMUNITY DWELLING ADULT WOMEN: IMPLICATIONS FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH PROMOTION

Vidya Seshan, Joshua Kanaabi Muliira

Abstract

Urinary incontinence (UI) continues to affect millions of women worldwide and those living in resource poor settings seem to be more affected. The purpose of this study was to determine the prevalence of UI and factors associated with UI symptom severity (UISS) among women in a selected district in India. A cross-sectional design was used to collect data from a sample of 598 community dwelling women in the age range of 20 to 60 years. Data was collected using a questionnaire survey of participants who were found in their homes. The prevalence of UI was 33.8% and the majority of women had negative attitudes about the condition. For instance most women were in agreement with statements such as: UI cannot be prevented or cured (98%); women with UI are cursed (97%); women are not supposed to tell anyone about the problem (90%) and others. Of the 202 women with self-reported UI, the majority reported having moderate UISS (78%) and others rated the symptoms as mild (22%). The woman's age at first birth ($p < .01$) was negatively associated with UISS, while the number of pregnancies ($p < .01$) and weight of the largest baby ever delivered ($p < .01$), were positively associated with UISS. The weight of the largest baby delivered had the strongest impact on predicting UISS. Many community dwelling women are suffering from UI at proportions which warrant significant public health consideration. Therefore public health programs to prevent UI or worsening of symptoms are required and should emphasize health education, because of the pervasive negative attitudes among affected and unaffected women. The predictors reported here can be used to prioritize care for affected women and to encourage early uptake of health actions and behaviors that promote pelvic floor strengthening in at risk women who may be reluctant to disclose UI.

Published in BMC Women's Health

USING A VIDEO ASSISTED TEACHING PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE SEVERITY OF URINARY INCONTINENCE SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN

Vidya Seshan, Joshua K. Muliira, Rajalakshmi Krishnamurthy, Vidhya Sivaram

Abstract

Urinary incontinence (UI) is still a common chronic health problem affecting physical, psychological and social well-being of women in developing countries. UI is a challenge to women's health because of the number affected and lack of access to affordable care that can cure or relieve associated symptoms especially in resource limited settings. This study explored the prevalence of UI and assessed effectiveness of a Video Assisted Teaching Program for Kegel's Exercises (VATPKE) in reducing severity of UI symptoms among community dwelling women. A survey was used to obtain data from a sample of 598 community dwelling Indian women in Coimbatore district in Tamilnadu State. A pre-posttest design was then used to assess effectiveness of the VATPKE in reducing UI symptom severity in affected women. Data were analysed using a paired samples t-test. Of the 598 women, 202 (34%) reported having some level of UI and most participants affected were married (78%), less educated (56%), had high BMI (52%) and lower socio-economic status. Affected women mostly reported the severity level of UI symptoms at pre-intervention as moderate (78%) or mild (22%). The mean post-intervention UI symptoms severity score ($M = 21.72$, $SD = 3.99$) was lower than pre-intervention ($M = 29.91$, $SD = 5.12$) and paired t-test results showed that the difference was highly statistically significant ($p < 0.00$). The VATPKE used in this study was effective in reducing the severity of self-reported UI symptoms in community dwelling Indian women.

Published in International Journal of Urological Nursing

JOURNAL PUBLICATION AWARD

ATTITUDE OF NURSING STUDENTS AT SULTAN QABOOS UNIVERSITY

Shreedevi Balachandran, Ramesh Venkatesaperumal, Jothi Clara, Raghda K. Shukri1

Abstract

The objectives of this study were to assess the attitude of Omani nursing students towards writing-to-learn (WTL) and its relationship to demographic variables, self-efficacy and the writing process. A cross-sectional design was used to evaluate attitudes towards WTL by Sultan Qaboos University nursing students. A convenience sample of 106 students was used and data collected between October 2009 and March 2010. A modified version of the WTL attitude scale developed by Dobie and Poirrier was used to collect the data. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for analysis. Senior and junior students had more positive attitudes to WTL than mid-level students who tended to have negative attitudes towards writing. Although 52.8% students had negative attitudes towards the writing process, the median was higher for attitudes to the writing process compared to the median for self-efficacy. There was a positive correlation between self-efficacy and writing process scores. Overall, students had negative attitudes towards WTL. Attitudes are learnt or formed through previous experiences. The incorporation of WTL strategies into teaching can transform students' negative attitudes towards writing into positive ones.

Published in Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal

IMPROVING VAGINAL EXAMINATIONS PERFORMED BY MIDWIVES

Rhoda S. Muliira, Vidya Seshan, Shanthi Ramasubramaniam

Abstract

Avaginal examination (VE) is an essential part of midwifery care, and is routinely performed when assessing the progress of labour. As evidence shows that during labour women may find VEs unpleasant, embarrassing and sometimes painful, the aim of this article is to review literature on the use of VEs during labour and to synthesise information from the available literature on how to provide an effective VE. The studies considered were retrieved from three databases (the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature [CINAHL], SCOPUS and MEDLINE) using the following search terms: "VEs in labour", "midwives and use of VEs" and "women experiences of VEs in labour". The literature reviewed suggests that midwives are not careful about VEs. Therefore, a concerted effort is needed to pay attention to the frequency of VEs, the management of pain and distress, information-giving and the preferences of the patient, so that the patient can feel in control during a VE.

Published in Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal

SEXUAL HEALTH FOR OLDER WOMEN

Joshua K. Muliira and Rhoda S. Muliira

Abstract

This article presents findings from a review of the evidence regarding sexual health for older women from MEDLINE, SCOPUS and the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health (CINHAL) databases. A total of 10 articles based on primary studies, reporting about the sexuality or sexual health of older women (and older people), and published between 2002–2012, were deemed suitable. The major themes that emerged from the available literature suggest that the sexual health of older people is affected by factors such as physical changes, mental health, changes to their relationship with their husband, chronic ill health and other psychosocial situations. It is concluded that nurses and other healthcare providers have a range of interventions that can be adopted to promote sexual health among older women. These interventions may focus on improving the older woman's sexual health assessment; increasing awareness and knowledge about sexuality in later life; pharmacological and psychotherapeutic therapies; using alternative techniques to achieve better sexual functioning; addressing partner and relationship issues, and advocating the importance of sexual health through media and policy development.

Published in Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal

JOURNAL PUBLICATION AWARD

TEACHING CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE THERAPEUTIC TOUCH TO NURSING STUDENTS IN THE SULTANATE OF OMAN

Joshua Kanaabi Muliira, Rhoda Suub

Abstract

Therapeutic touch (TT) is a valid nursing intervention but some patients feel uncomfortable with it because of personal beliefs. This commentary presents observations and experiences of the use of TT during care of Muslim patients in the Sultanate of Oman. There is need to teach nursing students deliberate steps when considering its use in Muslim patients because they increase acceptability and implementation in a culturally sensitive manner.

Published in Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal

A REVIEW OF POTENTIAL MUSLIM ORGAN DONOR'S PERSPECTIVES ON SOLID ORGAN DONATION: LESSONS FOR NURSES IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

Rhoda S. Muliira, Joshua K. Muliira

Abstract

To establish basic aspects that nurses working with potential Muslim organ donors need to know in order to provide culturally sensitive care. Studies were retrieved from four databases (Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature, SCOPUS, Medline, and PubMed). Findings of available studies show that health education, family involvement, and collaboration with religious leaders are good strategies for ensuring culturally sensitive care for Muslim patients in this situation. Nurses need to know that organ donation is compatible with Islam and that religious leaders, family, sociocultural beliefs, legal requirements, informed decision making process, and Ramadan are important aspects that need to be considered in order to be able to provide culturally sensitive care.

Published in Nursing Forum

PUBLICATION OUTPUTS (2013—2015)

The college has continued to strengthen its international presence through its scholarly works. From 2013 to 2015, a total of eighty four (84) manuscripts were successfully published in different refereed journals. Significant increase was noted in the number for publications from 21 in 2013 to 37 in 2015 or a 76% increase. When sorted according to department, Maternity and Child Health Department registered the highest number of published paper (29%, n = 29) followed by Fundamentals and Administration Department (28%, n = 23) and Adult Health and Critical Care Department (28%, n = 23).

Figure 5. Distribution of Published Papers According to Fiscal Year

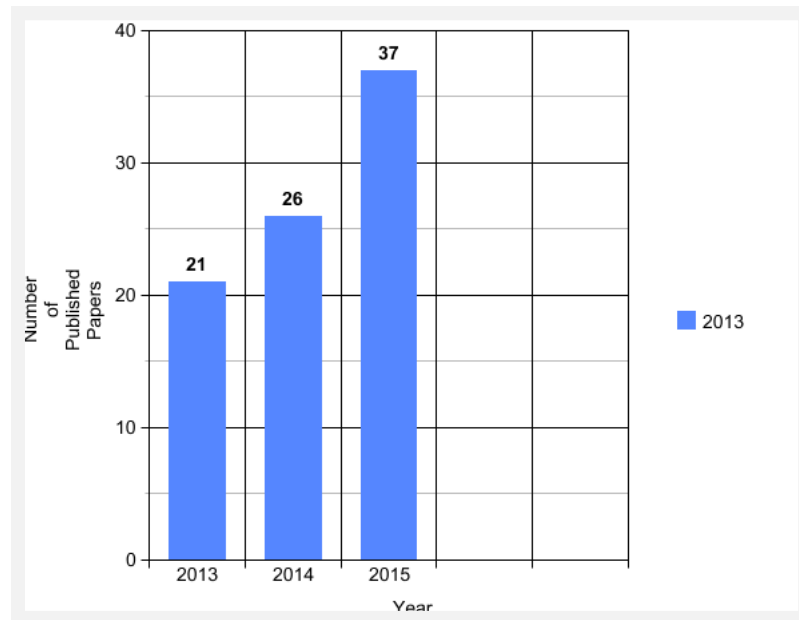


Figure 6. Distribution of Published Paper by Department (2013—2015)

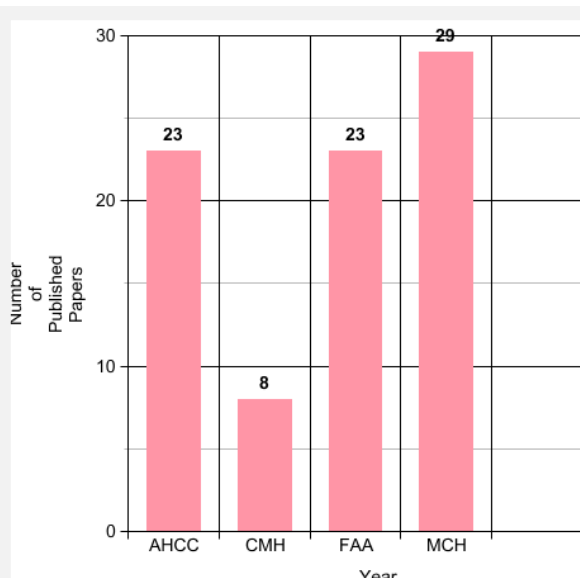
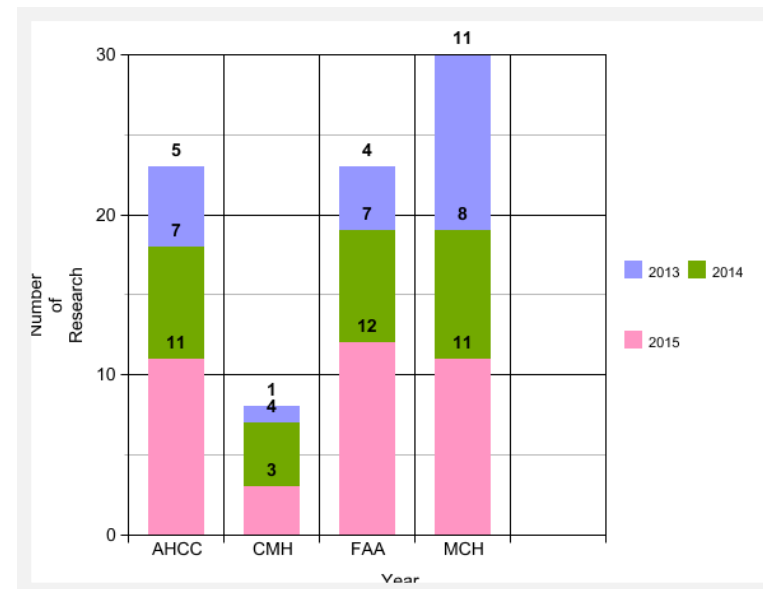


Figure 7. Distribution of Published Papers by Department (2013—2015)



PUBLICATION OUTPUTS (2013—2015)

Figure 8. Distribution of Published Papers According to Authorship

Table shows the distribution of published papers according to authorship. Majority of the papers published during the three fiscal years were authored (first authorship) by PhD faculty ($n = 64$, 75.30%).

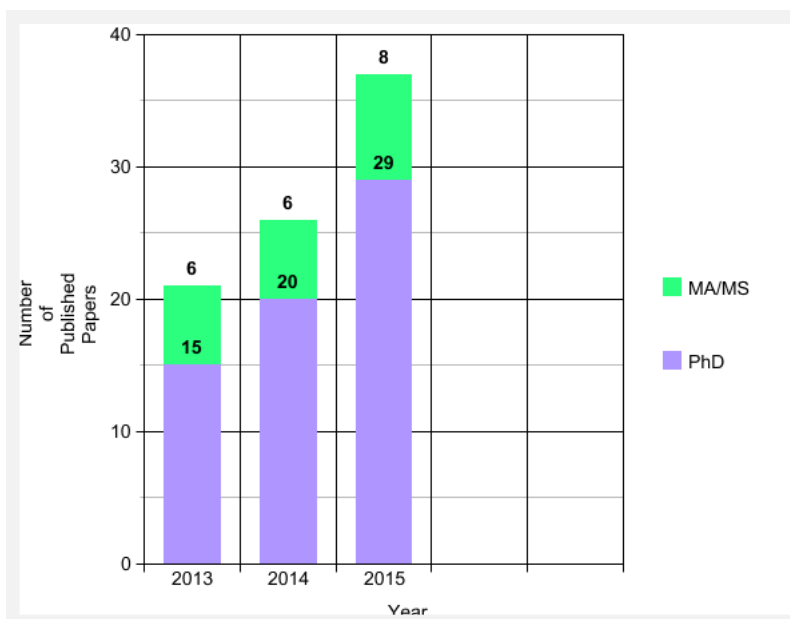
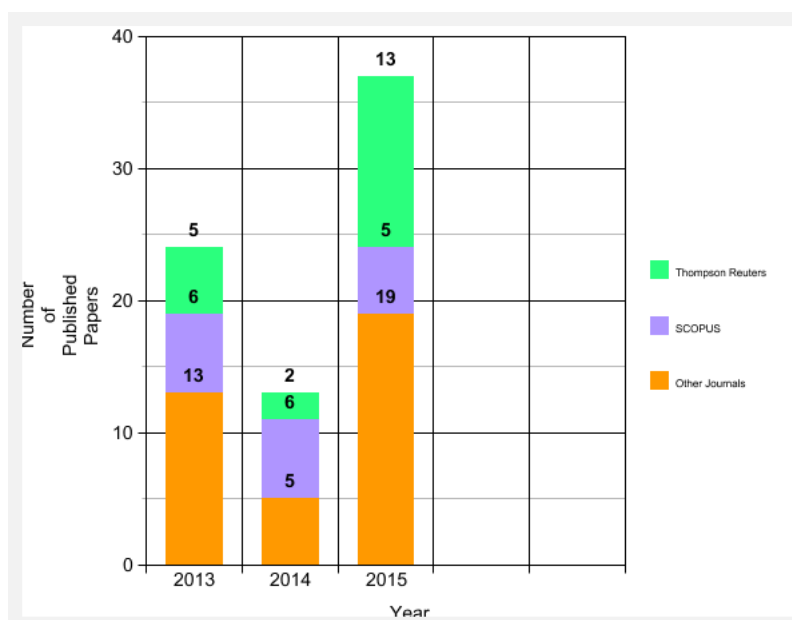


Figure 9. Distribution of Published Papers According to Journal Type

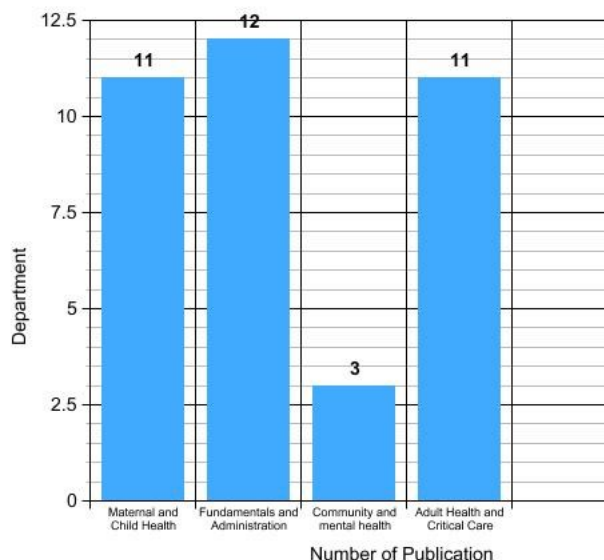
Table shows the distribution of published papers according to journal type. During the three-year period, seventeen (20.98%) papers were published in ISI journals, 17 papers in SCOPUS, and the remaining percentage or 58.02% in other refereed journal.



RESEARCH OUTPUTS (2015)

Twenty six (37) papers were successfully published in different nursing journals in 2015. Figure 10 shows the distribution of published papers by department.

Figure 10. Distribution of Published Papers According to Department



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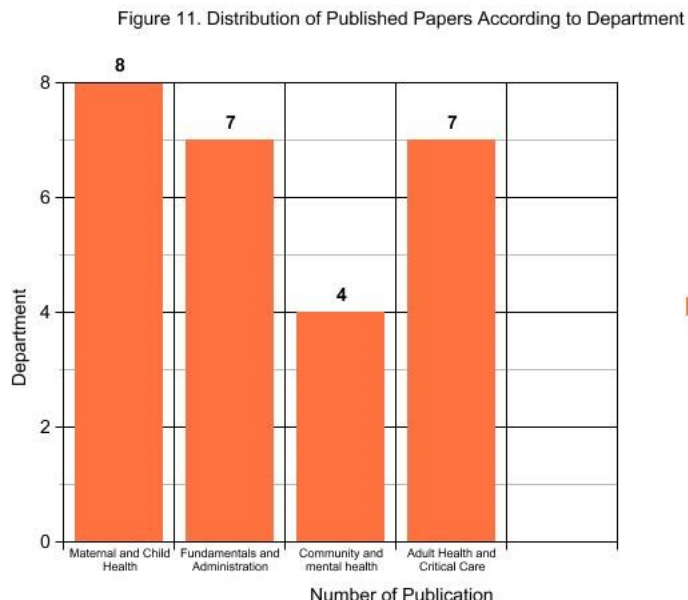
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RESEARCH OUTPUTS (2014)

A total of thirty seven (26) papers were successfully published in different nursing journals in 2014. Figure 11 Shows the distribution of published papers by department.



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- Al Khasawneh, E.** Omani Women's Understanding of Personal Breast Cancer Risk. In: 3rd European-Asian Breast Cancer Congress, Sultanate of Oman. Muscat 29-31 October 2014.
- Al Khasawneh, E.** Breast Cancer Prevention and Early Detection. In: 3rd European-Asian Breast Cancer Congress, Sultanate of Oman. Muscat, 28th October 2014.
- Al Khasawneh, E.** Factors Related to Low Compliance to Iron Supplements Among Pregnant Women in Middle Eastern University Hospital. In: 18th International Nursing Research Conference, Spain. 11-14 November 2014.
- Ammouri A.A.** Patient Safety Culture Among Nurses. In: MNRS 38th Annual Research Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, 2014
- Devakirubai, J.** Efficacy of Cling Film Dressing on plantar psoriatic lesions: A randomized clinical trial. In: The 18th International Research Conference, Spain, 11th - 14th November 2014.
- D' Souza, M.** Use and satisfaction of e-learning among nurse educators in undergraduate nursing. In: Western & North-Western Region Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Conference, Canada, 18th February 2014

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Hayudini, J. Students' Satisfaction with learning environment at the College of Nursing , Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. In: ICET 2014 (International council on education for teaching), Ontario Canada, 2014

Natarajan, J. Realizing the potential role of nurses in genetics and genomics 2014. In: ISONG World Congress on Nursing and Genomics, USA, 7th November 2014

Natarajan, J. Distress during the Menopausal Transition: A review of Literature. In: 1st International Conference on Advances in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Sultanate of Oman. Muscat, 4-6th December, 2013

Raman, S. Philomin, & Mhaskar. Effectiveness of Self Perineal Care Vs Aseptic Perineal care towards Healing of Episiotomy Wounds. In: 18th International Nursing Research Conference, Spain. 11 to 14th of November 2014

Radhakrishnan, J. Specialized Neuro Simulation Laboratory: A platform for Interdisciplinary Education. In: 9th GCC Neuro Conference. Muscat, 6-8 November 2014

Francis, F. Effectiveness of face to face teaching programme on strategies to maintain newborn sleep pattern to overcome newborn induced sleep deficit among postpartum mothers. In: National Conference on Life, Art and Science in Midwifery, Puducherry, India,

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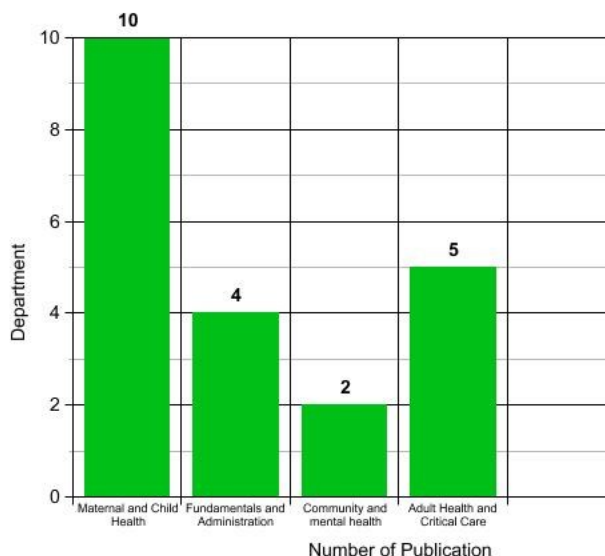
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RESEARCH OUTPUTS (2013)

A total of seventeen (21) papers were successfully published in different nursing journals in 2013. Figure 12 shows the distribution of published papers by department.

Figure 12. Distribution of Published Papers According to Department



PUBLICATIONS

Al Khasawneh E., (2013) Using VARK to Assess Changes in Learning Preferences of Nursing Students at a Public University in Jordan: Implications for Teaching. *Nurse Education Today*, 33(12), 1546-1549.

Al Khasawneh, E., Ismayilova, L., Seshan, V., Hmoud, O., & El-Bassel, N. (2013) Predictors of HIV knowledge among Jordan youth. *Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal*, 13 (2), 232 – 240.

Amandu A., Muliira J., & Fronda D. (2013) Using Moodle e-learning platform to foster student self-directed learning: experiences with utilization of the software in undergraduate nursing courses in a Middle Eastern University. *Procedia - Social and Behavioural Sciences*, 93, 677 - 683.

D'Souza, M. S., Venkatesaperumal, R., Radhakrishnan, J., & Shreedevi, B. (2013) Engagement in clinical learning environment among nursing students: Role of nurse educators. *Open Journal of Nursing*, 3(1), 25 - 32.

Jacob III, P., **Abu Raddaha, A. H.,** Dempsey, D., Havel, C., Peng, M., Yu, L., & Benowitz, N. L. (2013) Comparison of nicotine and carcinogen exposure with water pipe and cigarette smoking. *Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers and Prevention*, 22(5), 765 – 772.

Ismayilova, L., **Alkhasawneh, E.,** Olimat, H., Shaw, S., & Elbasil, N. (2013) Depressive Symptoms among Jordanian youth: results of a national survey. *The Community Mental Health Journal*, 49(1), 133-140.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G., & Akintola, A. (2013) Preceptorship: Bridging the Theory Practice Gap and Enhancing Transition of New Graduates. *International Journal of Nursing Care*, 1(1), 25 – 29.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G., Kumar, K.A., Sivadasan, K.R., **Akintola, A.,** & Ramasubramaniam, S. (2013) Effects of Pregnancy Related Anxiety on Labour Outcomes: A Prospective Cohort Study. *Journal of Research in Nursing and Midwifery*, 2(7), 96 – 103.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G., Shukri, R., Hayudini, J., & Narayanan, S. (2013) Undergraduate Nursing Students' Perception of Effective Clinical Instructor: Oman. *International Journal of Nursing Science*, 3(2), 38 – 44.

Maroof, S., D'Souza, M. S., Venkatesaperumal, R., & Karkada, S. N. (2013) Perceptions of Smoking Behaviours and Habits among University Students in Oman. *International Journal of Nursing Care*, 1(2), 88.

Muliira, J.K. & Muliira, R.S. (2013) Sexual health for older women: Implications for nurses and other health care providers. *Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal*, 13(4), 469 – 476.

Muliira, J.K. & Muliira, R.S. (2013) Teaching culturally appropriate therapeutic touch to nursing students in the Sultanate of Oman: Reflections on observations and experiences with Muslim Patients. *Holistic Nursing Practice*, 27(1), 45-48.

PUBLICATIONS

Muliira, R.S., Seshan, V. & Ramasubramaniam, S. (2013) A review on how to make vaginal examination easier: Lessons for midwives in clinical practice. *Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal*, 13(3), 442 – 449.

Natarajan, J., Seshan, V., Muliira, R. S. (2013) Review Literature on Distress during the Menopausal Transition and Their Impact on the Quality Of Life of Women: What is the Evidence? *Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences*, 2 (4), 1 – 10.

Natarajan, J. (2013) Diabetic compliance: A qualitative study from the patient's perspective in developing countries. *Journal of Nursing and Health Science*, 1(4), 29 – 38.

Radhakrishnan, J., Balachandran, S., Venkatesaperumal, R., & D' Souza, M. S. (2013) Simulation: A Teaching Strategy in Nursing Education for Safe Practice, *International Journal of Nursing Education*, 5(1), 251 – 255.

Seshan, V. & Muliira, J.K. (2013) Self-reported urinary incontinence and factors associated with symptom severity in community dwelling adult women: implications for women's health promotion. *BMC Women's Health*, 13 (16).

Seshan, V., Muliira, J.K., Krishnamurthy, R. & Sivaram, V. (2013) Using a video assisted teaching program to reduce the severity of urinary incontinent symptom in women. *International Journal of Urological Nursing*, 7(1), 33 – 42.

Thomas, S.D., & Natarajan, J. (2013) Diet - A new approach to treating endometriosis – What is the evidence? *Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences*, (5), 4 – 11.

Venkatesaperumal, R., D'Souza, M.S., Balachandran, S., & Radhakrishnan, J. (2013) Role of a Nurse in Non-invasive Positive Pressure Ventilation: A Conceptual Model for Clinical Practice. *International Journal of Nursing Education*, 5(1), 119 – 123.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Al Hashmi, I. Effectiveness of calcium supplementation on reducing risk of hypertensive disorders during pregnancy - A review based on evidence. In: *Proceedings of the International Obstetrics and Gynecology Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 6th December 2013.

Radhakrishnan, J. Venkatesaperumal, R., Balachandran, S., & D'Souza, M.S. Patients for patient safety. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Patient Safety Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 21-23, January 2013.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G. & Thomas, D. Patient Safety and Nursing education. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 21-23, January 2013.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G. Course of pregnancy Anxiety and its Outcomes. In: *Proceedings of the Midwifery Conference*. Dubai, UAE, 1 – 3 April 2013.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G. The Effect of Childbirth Education on Maternal Anxiety. In: *Proceedings of the Midwifery Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University Hospital, Muscat, Oman, 12 December 2013.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G., Al - Hashmi, I., Akintola, A., Ramasubramaniam, S., Seshan, V., & Muliira, R. S., & Raman, S. Patient Safety and Nursing Education. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 21 - 23 January 2013.

Madhavanprabhakaran, G., Wittmann, L., & Akintola, A. Effect of Childbirth Education On Maternal Satisfaction Among Primigravid Women. In: *Proceedings of the International Obstetrics and Gynecology Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 3 – 6 December 2013.

Muliira, J.K. HIV transition clinic utilization by youth living with HIV/AIDS: Does it affect uptake of HIV Home Care Services? In: *Proceedings of the Inaugural Conference of the International Home Care Nurses Organization*, Cleveland, USA, 25 – 28 June 2013.

Natarajan, J. Disaster Preparedness. In: *Proceedings of the Oman International Conference on Emergency Medicine*, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Natarajan, J., Seshan.V., R. S. Muliira. Review Literature on Distress during the Menopausal Transition and Their Impact on the Quality Of Life of Women: What is The Evidence? In: *Proceedings of the 1st International Conference on Advances in Obstetrics and Gynecology*. 2013.

Natarajan, J. Electronic Health Records-A leap forward in patient safety. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 20 – 23 January 2013.

Radhakrishnan, J. Simulation: The future of nursing education. In: *Proceedings of the First National Conference*, Sur, Oman, December 2013.

Raman, S. Strategies to Enhance Patient Safety. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 20 – 23 January 2013.

Raman, S. Excess Technology a Threat to Patient Safety. 2013. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 20 – 23 January 2013.

Raman, S. Patient Safety and Nursing Education. 2012. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 20 – 23 January 2013.

Raman, S., Phillip, H., Ramasubramaniam, S., & Seshan, V. Enabling excess technology: Opinion of nurses in an era of patient safety. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 20 – 23 January 2013.

Seshan, V. Enabling excess technology: Opinion of nurses in an era of patient safety. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 21 – 23, January 2013.

Seshan, V. Improving knowledge on Urinary incontinence among community dwelling women using a video assisted teaching program. In: *Proceedings of the 1st International Obstetrics and Gynecology Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 4 – 6 December 2013.

Seshan, V. Patient Safety and Nursing education. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 21 – 23, January 2013.

Seshan, V. Prevalence of urinary incontinence and factors associated with symptom severity of urinary incontinence among women. In: *Proceedings of the 9th Singapore International Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology*. Singapore, 22 – 24 August 2013.

Seshan, V. Strategies to Enhance Patient Safety. 2013. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 21 – 23, January 2013.

Seshan,V., Muliira, R.S., Raman, S., Ramasubramaniam, S., & Al Hashmi, I. Strategies to Enhance Patient Safety. 2013. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Conference on Patient Safety*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman, 20 – January 2013.

Balachandran, S., Venkatesaperumal, R., D'Souza, M.S., & Radhakrishnan, J. Supporting the role of nurse educators for teaching student nurses for patient safety. In: *Proceedings of the 2nd GCC International Patient Safety Conference*. Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. 21 – 23 January 2013.

Thomas. D.S. & Natarajan. J. Diet-A new approach to treating endometriosis-What is the evidence? In: *1st International Conference on Advances in Obstetrics and Gynecology*.

RESEARCH CONFERENCE (As Observer)

Al Yazidi, B. The 8th International Neonatal Nursing Conference. North Ireland (Belfast), September 2013.

Al-Hashmi, I. The 9th Singapore International Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 22 – 24 August 2013.

RESEARCH AWARDS



Ms. Jayanthi Radhakrishnan during her poster presentation

Jayanthi Radhakrishnan, the Acting Head of the Fundamentals and Nursing Administration Department brought home her **1st-Runner up** finish in the recently concluded 9th GCC Neurology Conference held at SQU Conference Hall, Muscat, Oman on November 6 - 8, 2014.

Topping other researchers from other countries, Ms. Radhakrishnan's entry, "Specialized Neuro Simulation Laboratory: A Platform for Interdisciplinary Education" won the judge's approval and landed her as 1st runner up winner. Her poster presentation focuses on the importance of specialized neuro simulation laboratory in enriching students' learning experience and fostering interdisciplinary education. Ms. Radhakrishnan received a plaque of recognition and a gift prize apart from the honor she brought to SQU.

The conference was organized by the Oman Neurology Society in collaboration with Sultan Qaboos University Hospital. The Symposium Conference is held biennially to provide opportunity for all experts and interested persons in the field of Neuroscience and in particular, Neurology, to meet and share their expertise and experience as well as getting updates in the field. It is also an opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the professionals in the field and share ideas on common issues related to patients care, education and research.

Dr. Vidya Seshan, Head of Department, Maternity and Child Health was conferred the **Best Researcher Award 2015** by the university. The awarding ceremony took place in Sultan Qaboos University, Oman.

The Best Researcher Award is given annually to faculty researchers who have contributed significantly to research through scientific articles in international journal publications, scientific research grants, research advising, and social responsibility in the scientific community as journal reviewer/editor. Since 2011, she has published more than 20 scientific articles in top ranked journals such as in the International Journal of Urologic Nursing and BMC women's Health and has presented her research in various conferences.

Her research interests include urinary incontinence, women's health, and educational technology. She is currently working on her research on women's health outcomes.

Dr. Vidya is the first recipient within the college to received such award and she received a gift prize and a plaque of recognition.



Dr. Vidya Seshan receiving her award

RESEARCH AWARDS



Ms. Frincy Francis



Ms. Sheeba Elizabeth

Frincky Francis and Sheeba Elizabeth, both from the Maternal and Child Health Department, emerged victorious as they bagged the **Dr. Umberto Veronisi Foundation Award** for their poster presentation during the 3rd European-Asian Breast Cancer Congress held at Al Bustan Palace Hotel, Muscat, Oman on October 28-31, 2014. The award was presented by Dr. Adil Mohammed Aljarah Alajmi, chairman of the conference and senior consultant at Sultan Qaboos University Hospital. Besting other researchers, their poster entry, “Sensitize the young , say HI to early detection and BYE to breast cancer” landed as the grand winner.

Their winning entry focuses on the impact of education on breast cancer awareness (BCA) and TLC(Touch-Look-Check) technique among adolescent girls. Utilizing a pre–test and post–test design, 40 adolescents girls were taken as samples. Their study concluded that a power point assisted education programme was effective in increasing the awareness on breast cancer and TLC technique, the need for its early detection and treatment among young girls who could use this information to create an awareness in their mothers, siblings and relatives thereby reducing the morbidity due to cancer.

Sponsored by the Euro–Asian Association of Mastology (EURAMA) and Sultan Qaboos University along with Ministry of Health, Oman Medical Specialty Board and The Research Council, the European-Asian Breast Cancer Congress is held annually to promote an exchange of knowledge in the field of breast cancer treatment between countries of East and West countries.

CAPABILITY BUILDING PROGRAM

To strengthen research capabilities of the faculty in research, the college provided various trainings, updates and workshops.

WORKSHOP ON THE USE OF STATISCAL PACKAGE FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (SPSS)

The faculty development program committee organized a workshop on the use of SPSS. The workshop was conceptualized to train nursing faculty to prepare, manipulate and manage research data using SPSS. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Fayez A .A. Al-Simadi, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Social Work, Sultan Qaboos University. It was conducted in four sessions every Thursday between 1 to 4 pm from November to December 2014. The workshop centered on the following: familiarization with SPSS, creating a data file, open an existing data file, preparation of data for analysis, and data treatment and analysis. After the workshop, each departments were provided with a laptop with SPSS package. All the faculty members attended appreciated the effort by Dr. Fayez and expressed to have more sessions on SPSS.



Faculty attending the workshop



Faculty attending the workshop

ORIENTATION ON THE RESEARCH COUNCIL (TRC) GRANTS AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Dr. Ahmed Al Shukaili, the Research Director of the Research Council of Oman conducted an orientation on the various research programs and grants of the TRC on March 4, 2015. In his talk, he explained the different research grants of the TRC as well as the requirements, timeline for submission, and the selection process of the research proposals. He also informed the faculty of the new research program, the Faculty Undergraduate Research Award Program (FURAP) which is intended for a faculty mentored student research proposal. The majority of the faculty members who participated in the orientation expressed that the session was very useful.

CAPABILITY BUILDING PROGRAM

PRESENTATION ON ETHICS IN RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION WRITING

Dr. Lamk Lamki, the Chief Editor of SQU Medical Journal and Advisor to the Vice-Chancellor of Health Affairs presented “Ethics in Research & Ethics in Publication” in the college on April 30, 2015. The main goal of his presentation was to enhance faculty understanding about ethics in research and practice ethics in the publication of their research work. In his presentation, Dr. Lamk highlighted the different ethical issues in research and publication of research work. Moreover, he also discussed some scientific misconduct most researchers must be aware of. These include the following: plagiarism, failure to report results accurately, failure to adhere to and work within ethical guidelines, failure to attribute the work of others you use, and authorship abuse. He also recommended having the faculty submit their research works in reputable journals.



- DR. ESRA AL KHASAWNEH**, SQU Medical Journal, Journal of Advanced Nursing, Journal of Oncology Nursing Forum, Nurse Education Today, BMC/ Women's Health Obesity, TRC Saudi Arabia—Nouraah University
- DR. ERNA JUDITH ROACH**, Nursing Research Society of India, Global Health Action, Journal of Nursing Science and Practice
- DR. VIDYA SESHAN**, Maternal & child Health Journal, Indian Journal of Health Sciences, Journal of South Asian Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology, International Organization of Scientific Research, British Journal of Medicine and Medical Research, International Journal of Urological Nursing, Bio-Medical & Scientific Journal
- DR. GIRIJA MADHAVANPRABAKARAN**, Nurse Education Today
- DR. SUJA KARKADA**, International Journal of Nursing Research and Practice
- DR. GERALD MATUA AMANDU**, Biomed Central (BMC), Medical Practice and Review, Sultan Qaboos University Medical Journal, Journal of Arts and Aesthetics in Nursing and Health Sciences
- DR. PORKODI ARJUNAN**, The Genesis, IDC International Journal
- DR. JOSHUA KANABI MULIIRA**, Journal of Advanced Nursing, Cancer Nursing, AIDS Care, Psychology, Health & Medicine, Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies
- DR. OMAR AL RAWAJFAH**, Nurse Education Today, Journal of Infection and Public Health
- DR. GODFREY KATENDE**, Urology Journal
- DR. EILEAN LAZARUS**, International Journal of Nursing Education, IDC International Journal
- DR. ABD ALHADI HASAN**, BMC Psychiatry, Psychology Journal
- LINA SHAKMAN**, Nursing College Journal
- DEVAKIRUBAI ELIZABETH JACOB**, Journal of Clinical Nursing
- IRENE BETTY KIZZA**, BMC/Medical Education
- JANSIRANI NATARAJAN**, Oman Medical Journal
- SHEEBA ELIZABETH**, RCNP: Nursing Children and Young People Journal
- FRANCIS FRINCY**, International Journal of Women's Health, Nursing Research and Reviews, Primary Health Care Journal
- LEODORO J. LABRAGUE**, Western Journal of Nursing Research, Clinical Nursing Research, International Journal of Nursing Practice, International Health

COLLEGE RESEARCH COMMITTEE



Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh, Chair, Associate Professor, Dean, Doctor in Nursing Science (University of Buffalo, USA), Research Interests: simulation, women's health promotion



Dr. Erna Judith Roach, Rapporteur, Assistant professor, Assistant Dean for Research, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (Manipal University, India), Research Interests: neonatal, child and adolescent health



Dr. Vathsala Sadan, Assistant Professor, Head of Department, Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (The Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University), Research Interests: health behaviors; health promotion & non communicable diseases; adolescent health; women's health; school health



Dr. Godfrey Katende, Assistant Professor, Doctor in Nursing Practice (Johns Hopkins University, USA), Research Interests: chronic diseases; nursing education; policy development



Alaa Al Bashayreh, Lecturer, Master in Nursing Administration (Jordan University of Science of Technology), Research Interest: nurse working conditions and job outcomes; nursing sensitive indicators; healthcare quality and safety outcomes; nursing student preparedness and transition to practice; innovative nursing education



Nasser Majid Dhawi Al Salmi, Lecturer, Master of Science in Nursing (University of San Diego, USA), Research Interests: pain management; fall prevention; hypertension; diabetes mellitus

Zainab Nasser Sulaiman Al Azri, Lecturer, Master in Nursing Science (University of Colorado, USA), Research Interest; children abuse in Oman, psychosocial impact of chronic disease on patients

FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh, women's health promotion

Dr. Erna Judith Roach, neonatal, child and adolescent Health

Dr. Gerald Amandu Matua, phenomenology, infectious disease research, ebola and health care, innovative teaching learning approaches, lived experience

Dr. Michael Leocadio, simulation, nursing innovation, nursing management and leadership, nursing education

Dr. Suja Karkada, research related to the social issues and educational needs in the community

Dr. Vathsala Sadan, health behaviors, health promotion, non communicable diseases, adolescent health, women's health, school health

Dr. Vidya Seshan, urinary incontinence, women's health, educational technology

Dr. Omar Mohammed Ali Al-Rawajfah, infection control, acute care nursing, nursing informatics

Dr. Joshua Muliira, coping with chronic disease, cancer prevention, health promotion, informal caregivers, caregiving, nursing education

Dr. Melba Sheila D'Souza, health promotion, health education, public health, diabetes mellitus, colorectal cancer, teaching and learning

Dr. Eilean Victoria Lazarus Rathinasamy, chronic diseases, women's health, critically ill patients

Dr. Khaled Al Omari, heart failure management, innovative teaching, clinical reasoning and judgment, interprofessional collaboration

Dr. Godfrey Katende, chronic diseases, nursing education, policy development

Dr. Abd Al-Hadi Hasan, psychosocial interventions, behavioral therapy, illness prevention and control, health behavior change, tobacco cessation, health services research, nursing education

Dr. Jahara Noor Ali Hayudini, teaching—learning, clinical skill, patient safety

Dr. Porkodi Arjunan, health assessment, patient education, heart failure, cardiac rehabilitation, geriatric and the elderly, osteoporosis, women's health

Dr. Girija Madhavanprabhakaran, effective teaching strategies to enhance learning outcomes and patient safety, clinical nursing education, clinical collaborative, research focusing psychosocial aspects of women during pregnancy and childbirth, exploring evidence-base practice in the field of maternity care

Dr. Judie Arulappan, qualitative nursing research, psychosocial issues, adolescent health, preventive health care

Alaa Bashayreh, nurse working conditions, job outcomes, nursing sensitive indicators, healthcare quality, safety outcomes, nursing student preparedness, transition to practice, innovative nursing education

Arwa Atef Sultan Obeidat, preceptorship, mentorship, patient education, innovative teaching and learning, evidence based practice, pain management, quality and safety outcomes

Asma Al Yahyaei, nursing time, management studies related to the geriatric and the elderly evidence based practice, innovative teaching, learning health assessment

Arcalyd Rose Ramos-Cayaban, patient centered care quality improvement, management, nursing informatics, clinical performance

Anandhi Deva Amirtharaj, education and clinical education

Dennis Cayaban Fronda, innovations in teaching and learning, competency lived experience

Anitha Nesa Thanka, wound care

Atiya Said Salim AlFurqani, maternal health

Aziza Saleh Nasser AL Sawafi, any topic under the scope of nursing

Basma AlYazeedi, school health

Bassema Mahyoub Abu Farsakh, schizophrenia, autistic spectrum disorder, women abuse

Chandrani Isac, nursing education, teaching - learning – evaluative strategies

Devakirubai Jacob, adult health & critical health nursing nursing, nursing education

FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Deepa Shaji Thomas, pediatric nursing, obstetrics and gynecology nursing, medical & surgical **Divya Raghavan**, genetic diseases, alternative therapies

Devanprabudoss J., children, adolescent and women's health

Ephraim Catoto Mirafuentes, evidence—based practice, nursing education, chronic diseases **Frincy Francis**, health promotion for women and newborns

Harshita Prabhakaran, child health nursing, low birth weight babies, kangaroo mother care, prevention of congenital anomalies in children

Hema Roslin Samson, pain management

Huda AL Noumani, severe sepsis, septic shock, cardiovascular risk reduction and prevention

Iman Hamdoon Hamed Al Hashmi, women's and maternal health (Pregnancy related complications, postpartum complications, menopause, women's health promotion), nursing education, nursing leadership

Irene Betty Kizza, health promotion across the lifespan care of patients with life threatening conditions, informal caregivers and impact of caregiving on health quality healthcare, patient safety, nursing education

Jansirani Natarajan, diabetes mellitus, elderly quality of life, incivility, simulation in nursing education

Joshy Abraham, mental health, nursing education

Jayanthi Radhakrishnan, nursing time management, women's health, osteoporosis, simulation, aged Care

Joy Kabasindi Kamanyire, nursing education, chronic disease (Diabetes mellitus, HIV-AIDS)

Kannekanti Saraswathi, school health , community health issues, Aged population

Leodoro J. Labrague, public health, complementary and alternative therapy, educational research, infection control

Lina Shakman, women's health & child hood illnesses

Maryam Mohammed Alharrasi, cardiovascular disease, nursing education

Mohammad Tarek Roumi Abuel-Ealeh, mental health nursing, nursing education, management, curriculum studies

Mohammed Ghalib Mosa Qutishat, stigma and mental health, quality of life and mental health, ethical consideration in mental health

Nisreen Mohammad Kasem Al-Nuaimi, motherhood experience, women's health

Nasir Asad Ibrahim Matani, healthy life style behaviors, occupational health, health risk behaviors, chronic diseases in community setting.

Nasser Majid Al-Salmi, pain management, fall prevention, hypertension , diabetes mellitus and nursing education

Salma Juma Fadhil Al Mukhaini, critical care issues

Savithri Raman, simulation, women's health

Sheeba Elizabeth, child's health, neonatal nursing

Shreedevi Balachandran, critical care staff nurses, student nurses, image of nursing

Sophia Joshua, experimental studied in maternal and child health

Sulaiman Dawood AL Sabei, quality, patient safety

Susan Achora, student assessment and evaluation, non-communicable diseases

Wafa Hamood Saleh Al Jabri, school health, public related health issues, simulation in teaching

Zeinab Nasser Alazri, children abuse in Oman, psychosocial impact of chronic disease on patients

Zainab Khalifa Mohammed Al Kindi, effect of simulation on nursing student clinical performance

RESEARCH REPORT PREPARED BY:

Mr. Leodoro J. Labrague, Lecturer, Fundamentals and Administration

CONSULTED:

Dr. Esra Al Khasawneh, College Dean

Dr. Erna Judith Roach, Assistant Dean for Research and Postgraduate Studies

Dr. Michael Leocadio, Assistant Dean for Training and Community Services

Dr. Vathsala Sadan, Head of Department, Community and Mental Health

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS?

Sultan Qaboos University

College of Nursing

PO Box 66, Al Khoud 123

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman





COLLEGE OF NURSING

We Care for Life!