



NZNO Nursing Research Section (NZNO)
bi monthly news bulletin
Friday 29 January 2021

This bulletin has been compiled by Linda Stopforth, SNIPS, on behalf of the NZNO Nursing Research Section (NRS). It is provided every two months. This bulletin contains an overview of news items, articles and research papers of interest to the Section members but does not necessarily represent the views of the NZNO Nursing Research Section. All links are current at the time of being compiled. For feedback please contact NRS Administrator: nzno.nrs@gmail.com

Section news

Welcome to the NZNO Research Section newsletter. On behalf of the NRS committee we warmly welcome you to our January newsletter, linking education and research in nursing.

Kai Tiaki Nursing Research

is an annual subscription only journal, which has showcased New Zealand nursing research since June 2010. Kai Tiaki Nursing Research is an internationally double blinded peer reviewed research journal. It publishes original, full length research manuscripts from New Zealand based nurse researchers (or other researchers where the research can be shown to have relevance to nursing in New Zealand). [Further information can be found here](#)

Patricia McClunie-Trust, Editor-in-Chief of Kai Tiaki Nursing Research encourages nurses to submit manuscripts to the Journal, particularly:

- new and emerging researchers
- established researchers
- clinicians who have undertaken research-based projects

Social Media

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Consultation

NZNO consults with members on a range of issues.
The full outline can be [found here](#)

Ethics and Research

Ethics In Nursing Research.

P. Priyadarshini

European Journal of Molecular & Clinical Medicine, 7(7), 6080-6086 (2021)

Ethics are the rules for correct behavior. Professional ethics for nurses will state the ideal ways in which a nurse should behave in all relationships including those with the patient, patient's relatives, co-workers, members of other professions and the public. The discussion of the professional

adjustment is complete only when ethics are included. Research involving human subjects in the medical, social and behavioral sciences poses complex ethical issues which requires careful thought and consideration on the part of both researchers and research participants. Ethics in research are very important when we are going to conduct an experiment. [Read more](#)

A nurses' guide to ethical considerations and the process for ethical approval of nursing research.

Ingham-Broomfield, R. (2017).

The Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing, 35(1), 40–47.

Objective: A sound knowledge of the ethical principles that guide nursing practice and research are essential for any researcher. This article provides discussion regarding the principles as well as the history behind ethical practice in the construction of nursing research. The article also breaks down the process for achieving ethical consent and includes a simplified framework to guide the process of seeking ethical approval.
Primary Argument: Nurses new to the field of conducting research may benefit from an organised structure that helps them understand the sequence of events required to gain appropriate ethical approval and ensure an ethical approach is adopted. It is crucial for all researching nurses to understand, and adhere to, already well developed nationally and globally prescribed ethical and validated research study structures to be able to achieve ethical, valid and reliable research outcomes.
Conclusion: A framework is provided within this article to outline the process of gaining ethical consent for research. The information presented in the framework is based upon the discussion within the article and may assist the nurse researcher, who is unfamiliar with the process of obtaining ethics committee consent, to plan and prepare for their research approval, in a systematic logical manner. The framework reflects the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) criteria which guides Human Research Ethics Committees (HRECs). Nursing research needs to be able to ethically contribute to the body of Evidence Based Practice. [Read more](#)

Ethical context of nursing research

Heale R, Shorten A

Evidence-Based Nursing 2017;20:7

Nursing research is held to the same ethical standards as all other research involving human participants. Nurses need to understand and apply ethical principles to their own research, as well as to the reading and review of research. The Declaration of Helsinki in 1964 is a statement about ethical principles, initially applied to medical research, but which now guides all types of research. Of the three core principles, the most important is 'respect of persons' where the participants' welfare takes precedence over interests of the researchers, society or science. Safeguards to participants are paramount and include strategies to mitigate potential harm related to emotional well-being, impact on employment, financial or social status and more. [Read more](#)

Reporting of ethical approval and informed consent in clinical research published in leading nursing journals: a retrospective observational study.

Wu, Y., Howarth, M., Zhou, C. *et al.*

BMC Med Ethics 20, 94 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12910-019-0431-5>

Ethical considerations play a prominent role in the protection of human subjects in clinical research. To date the disclosure of ethical protection in clinical research published in the international nursing journals has not been explored. Our research objective was to investigate the reporting of ethical approval and informed consent in clinical research published in leading international nursing journals. [Read more](#)

The reality of informed consent: empirical studies on patient comprehension—systematic review.

Pietrzykowski, T., Smilowska, K.

Trials 22, 57 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-020-04969-w>

Informed consent is a basic concept of contemporary, autonomy-based medical practice and facilitates a shared decision-making model for relations between physicians and patients. Thus, the extent to which patients can comprehend the consent they grant is essential to the ethical viability

of medicine as it is pursued today. However, research on patients' comprehension of an informed consent's basic components shows that their level of understanding is limited. [Read more](#)

The articles below are not freely available but may be sourced via the NZNO library or those of a DHB or educational institution

Indigenous nurses' practice realities of cultural safety and socioethical nursing.

Hunter, K., & Cook, C. (2020).

Nursing Ethics. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0969733020940376>

Persistent healthcare emphasis on universal moral philosophy has not advantaged indigenous and marginalised groups. Centralising cultural components of care is vital to provide ethical healthcare services to indigenous people and cultural minorities internationally. Woods' theoretical explication of how nurses can integrate cultural safety into a socioethical approach signposts ethical practice that reflects culturally congruent relational care and systemic critique.

Aim:

To demonstrate the empirical utility of Woods' ethical elements of cultural safety within a socioethical model, through analysis of indigenous nurses' practice realities in Aotearoa New Zealand

Ethical considerations regarding the inclusion of children in nursing research.

Damsma Bakker A, van Leeuwen R, Roodbol P.

Nursing Ethics. September 2020. doi:[10.1177/0969733020948120](https://doi.org/10.1177/0969733020948120)

Evidence-based nursing practice is based on three pillars: the available research, known preferences of the patient or patient group and the professional experience of the nurse. For all pillars, research is the tool to expand the evidence we have, but when implementing evidence-based practice in paediatric nursing two of the pillars demand that children are included as respondents: practice research on the nursing interventions in paediatrics and the preferences of patients, something recognized by scholars and practitioners. But including a vulnerable group as children in nursing research raises specific ethical issues that need to be considered by researchers. What are ethical considerations that are currently raised about doing research with children and what do we learn by synthesizing the narrative of these studies of why the issues are raised and which solutions can be offered for these issues? In this article, considerations on three ethical principles according to the Belmont report are described by examining recent research. Twenty-one studies were found addressing relevant ethical aspects including vulnerability, gaining consent, designing quantitative or qualitative research methods and considerations regarding the execution of the study. Ethical considerations should be much more a case of continuous awareness and attitude, then box-ticking exercise, although there are sufficient international guidelines available specifically for research that includes children to aid researchers.

Methodological and ethical challenges while conducting qualitative research on spirituality and end of life in a Muslim context: a guide to novice researchers

Nasreen Lalani and Gulnar Ali

International Journal of Palliative Nursing, Vol. 26, No. 7: 362-370.

Spirituality could be understood as a personal belief, a relation with sacred, divine experience, a sense of purpose and meaning towards life, authenticity and connectedness. It is a continually evolving, highly complex, contextual, subjective, and sensitive construct. A continuous development is seen around understanding about spirituality and spiritual concepts, such as spiritual experiences, spiritual pain and spiritual distress, especially among patients and families at the end of life. The concepts, values, attitudes, and beliefs around spirituality, spiritual needs and expressions vary among different individuals, cultures, and religions. There is a dearth of literature around spirituality, especially among Muslim patients and families at the end of life. The complexities around the concept of spirituality in the literature raise several ethical and methodological concerns for a novice researcher while planning and conducting a study on spirituality during end-of-life care in a hospice setting, especially among a Muslim population. This paper aims to share some of the methodological and ethical challenges that can be faced by qualitative researchers while conducting research around spirituality and end-of-life care in an

Islamic/Muslim context. Major challenges include defining the term spirituality, spirituality and culture, communication, power relations, language and translation, recruitment and selection of the participants, emotional distress, and reflexivity and reciprocity. Having an in-depth understanding of these challenges can guide researchers to address these issues adequately in their spirituality research in a Muslim context.

Ethics, health disparities, and discourses in oncology nursing's research: If we know the problems, why are we asking the wrong questions?.

Rabelais, E. and Walker, R.K. (2020),

J Clin Nurs. Accepted Author Manuscript. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15569>

Aims & Objectives

To disrupt connotations between “health disparities research” and critical engagement with racism, whiteness, other oppressions, and our profession's ongoing roles in white supremacy.

Background

In Oncology Nursing Society's 2019-2023 research agenda, health disparities are highlighted as a top priority for nursing knowledge generation and intervention. The document concludes needs for increased “minority and vulnerable population” participation in cancer clinical trials, reduced financial toxicity, behavioral interventions for risk reduction, incorporation of social determinants of health, and technology to promote rural access to high-quality care.

Ethics and Integrity in Nursing Research. West E. (2020) In: Iphofen R. (eds) *Handbook of Research Ethics and Scientific Integrity*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-16759-2_46

Most ethical issues that arise in the field of nursing tend to focus on human rights or direct client care issues, while the existing ethical frameworks and “nursing codes of ethics” put forth by leading nursing organizations tend to focus on increasing the ethical sensitivity or competence of nurses. Professional nursing, in its position as “art” and “science,” conducts cutting-edge research spanning a cornucopia of topics in the natural, social, formal, and applied sciences. However, the nature of nursing, which focuses on caring, preventing harm, protecting dignity, and advocacy roles in defense of patient rights, is sometimes at odds with the ethics of what can be considered more purely scientific research. This is primarily due to ambiguity or outright conflict with nursing standards (i.e., existing guidance frameworks or nursing ethics codes) and current research standards. This chapter will briefly explore the history of ethics development within the discipline of nursing. It will then explore the dichotomy between nursing and current research ethics via a comprehensive review and analysis of current relevant nursing literature. Identification of key ethical issues faced by nurse-researchers and how these issues were addressed can help to provide clarity and shed some light on the key issues identified in this chapter. In addition, it can help to formulate a framework that other nurse-researchers can use to maintain ethics and scientific integrity while investigating issues and proposing viable solutions to problems yet to be addressed in the field of nursing research.

Feminist Ethics in Nursing Research. Felzmann H. (2020) In: Kohlen H., McCarthy J. (eds) *Nursing Ethics: Feminist Perspectives*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-49104-8_11

Nursing is underpinned by a commitment to evidence-based practice. Practitioners are expected to have the competence to understand scientific research that is underpinning nursing practice. Increasingly, nurses at all levels of training are involved in conducting nursing research. Research ethics is dedicated to reflecting on ethical concerns that arise in the practice of research. In this chapter, research ethical concerns will be discussed through the lens of core concepts from feminist ethics: power, vulnerability, agency, care and trust. This chapter describes research ethical requirements as situated in specific social and institutional contexts that are characterised by power relationships. It is proposed to understand research as relational where the researcher's ability to engage in research activities that respect the participant's agency, their establishment of caring research relationships and their trustworthiness are proposed as underpinnings for traditional research ethical requirements.

New books

Research Ethics

Little Quick Fix

Cheryl N. Poth - University of Alberta, Canada

December 2020 | 136 pages | SAGE Publications Ltd

Within the visually engaging, straightforward and interactive Little Quick Fix format, Cheryl Poth helps the reader to identify the ethical considerations of their research, protect the privacy of their subjects, develop an ethical research design and respond to ethical issues as they arise. [Read more](#)

The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research Ethics

Edited by: Ron Iphofen and Martin Tolich - University of Otago

February 2018 | 584 pages | SAGE Publications Ltd

This handbook is a much-needed and in-depth review of the distinctive set of ethical considerations which accompanies qualitative research. This is particularly crucial given the emergent, dynamic and interactional nature of most qualitative research, which too often allows little time for reflection on the important ethical responsibilities and obligations.

[Read more](#)

General articles of interest

Patricia Davidson reflects on her long journey in nursing research ahead of her return to Wollongong

To practise as a clinical nurse in Wollongong Hospital, become a world-leading researcher, work as a mentor and tertiary administrator, then return to where it all began at the University of Wollongong' (UoW) as the new Vice Chancellor is an extensive journey for anyone. [Read more](#)

How does nursing research differ internationally? A bibliometric analysis of six countries.

Thelwall, M, Mas-Bleda, A.

Int J Nurs Pract. 2020; 26:e12851. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ijn.12851>

Background

International nursing research comparisons can give a new perspective on a nation's output by identifying strengths and weaknesses.

Aim

This article compares strengths in nursing research between six mainly English-speaking nations (Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States).

[Read more](#)

Fake news and fake research: Why meta-research matters more than ever.

McGee, R.G. and Dawson, A.C. (2020),

J Paediatr Child Health, 56: 1868-1871. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpc.15237>

Research is in a crisis of credibility, and this is to the peril of all paediatricians. Billions of dollars are being wasted each year because research is not planned, badly conducted or poorly reported, and this is on a background of rapidly reducing research budgets. How can paediatricians, families and patients make informed treatment choices if the evidence base is absent or not trustworthy?

This article discusses why meta-research now matters more than ever, how it can help solve this crisis of credibility and how this should lead to more efficient and effective clinical care. The field of meta-research or research-on-research is the ultimate big picture approach to identifying and solving issues of bias, error, misconduct and waste in research. Meta-researchers value authenticity over aesthetics and quality over quantity. The utility of meta-research does not rely on accusations or critical assessments of individual research, but through highlighting where and how the scientific method and research standards across all fields can be improved. Meta-researchers study, analyse and critique the research pathway, focusing on elements such as methods (how to conduct), evaluation (how to test), reporting (how to communicate), reproducibility (how to verify) and incentives (how to reward). In the current climate it is now more critical than ever that we make use of meta-research and prioritise high-quality high-impact research, ultimately leading to improved patient outcomes. [Read more](#)

Grants and funding

Wellington-based Medical Researchers Invited To Apply For Research Grants

Research For Life invites Wellington-based medical researchers to apply for research grants. The closing date for Research For Life's next round of grant applications is Thursday, 18 March 2021.

[Read more](#)

Health Research Council Funding calendar

Here you'll find the upcoming opening and closing dates for our various funding opportunities

[Read more](#)

Miscellaneous

Ethics notes – Health Research Council

Ethics Notes is produced annually. It provides a platform for generating awareness of the ethical issues, especially emerging ones, among the community at large. We hope these pieces generate discussion and consideration of important issues that surround research in Aotearoa New Zealand.

In this issue, we include commentaries related to human challenge studies and cluster randomised trials. We hope you find these a stimulating read. [Read more](#)

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