

The Journey to Nursing Excellence: Increasing the Knowledge of Evidence Based Practice in the Medical Surgical Registered Nurse

Julie Lynch, BSN, RN, Anne Stewart, MBA, BSN, RN, NE-BC & Randy Whitney, MSA, BSN, RN, NE-BC
Beaumont Hospital – Grosse Pointe, MI

BACKGROUND

In 2016, the Nurse Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Survey, developed by the Department of Nursing Services at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, was distributed to 105 medical surgical nurses at Beaumont Grosse Pointe. The study, which was approved by Beaumont IRB, was titled "Evaluating Registered Nurses Knowledge Regarding Evidence Based Practice in Medical-Surgical Nurses in a Community Hospital". The three units chosen for participation in the study were all medical surgical units with varying degrees of nursing experience. It was suggested that the unit with the most experienced nurses would have the least amount of knowledge regarding EBP and those units with less experienced nurses would have more knowledge. The assumption was that the least experienced nurses were just graduating from school, and they would have the most knowledge of EBP.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the study was to determine the nurse's knowledge regarding EBP and use the data to formulate an action plan to increase knowledge and awareness of evidence based practice in the Orthopaedic Unit on 3 South.

METHODS

This is a descriptive, explorative survey in which medical surgical nurses were asked to complete the 29 question 2005 Nursing Evidence-Based Practice Survey as well as some non-identifying demographic information. A 5 item likers scale was used with the rating of strongly agree to strongly disagree. The survey was a hard copy and distributed by hand, by the secretary in the nursing business office. The survey measured five factors of knowledge regarding EBP. The factors are: organizational culture regarding EBP, unit culture regarding EBP, knowledge and skills of the nurses, time and attitude regarding EBP. Demographics information was also collected such as age, sex, experience, education and work shift status.

AREAS ASSESSED IN THE SURVEY

1. **Organization Culture**- Does the Hospital Support EBP
2. **Unit Culture**- Does the Unit Support EBP
3. **Knowledge and Skill of the Nurse**- Measures the Nurses knowledge of EBP and are they able to locate EBP Research
4. **Time**- Does the Nurse have the time to review EBP Research
5. **Attitude**- Do the nurses support the concept of EBP

DEMOGRAPHICS

	3-South	2-South	3-West	Beaumont Grosse Pointe
Sex				
Female	84.6%	81.5%	88.9%	85.1%
Male	7.7%	14.8%	11.1%	11.9%
N/A		3.7%		3.0%
Age				
Under 40	76.9%	48.1%	62.9%	59.7%
Over 40	23.1%	51.9%	37.1%	40.3%
Education				
Diploma/Assoc	69.2%	51.8%	44.4%	52.3%
BSN/MSN	30.8%	48.2%	55.6%	47.7%
Experience				
1-3 Years	53.8%	33.3%	44.4%	41.8%
4-6 Years	23.1%	18.5%	25.9%	22.4%
7-10 Years	7.7%	0.0%	14.8%	7.5%
>10 Years	15.4%	48.2%	14.8%	28.3%

RESULTS

	3-South	2-South	3-West	Beaumont Grosse Pointe
Organization Culture	3.32	3.28	3.61	3.43
Unit Culture	3.91	3.43	4.10	3.80
Knowledge and Skill of Nurse	3.63	3.60	3.81	3.69
Time	3.12	2.79	3.15	3.00
Attitude	3.73	3.34	3.76	3.59
Results Based on 5 item Likers Scale				
1-Strongly Disagree	3- Uncertain			5-Strongly Agree

RESULTS OF TIME CATEGORY

	3-South	2-South	3-West	Beaumont Grosse Pointe
Nurses have enough time on the job to implement EBP findings	2.62	2.81	2.93	2.82
I could find one hour per week on the job for EBP activities if I made it a priority	3.62	2.77	3.37	3.18

INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE EBP

- Resource Room Development
- Journal Club
- Book Shelf – Text and Journal
- Educational Huddles
- Encourage Degree Completion

CONCLUSION

The nurses in this study demonstrated a similar level of knowledge of Evidence Based Practice on two of the three units, with different demographic data. 3 South had the highest percentage of inexperienced nurses and the lowest percent of BSN nurses but remained in the median of the 5 factors assessed

REFERENCES

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