

2020 RESEARCH AREAS
AND SUPERVISORS —




NURSING AND MIDWIFERY



WORLD READY —

2020



**THERE IS
WHERE YOU ARE
RIGHT NOW,
AND
THERE IS WHERE
YOU WANT
TO GET TO.
IN BETWEEN
YOU NEED A BRIDGE.
ECU IS THAT
BRIDGE BETWEEN
YOUR WORLD,
AND THE
WHOLE WORLD.**

**BECOME
WORLD READY
AT ECU.**

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ECU is committed to reconciliation and recognises and respects the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities, cultures and histories. ECU acknowledges and respects the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as the traditional custodians of the land. ECU acknowledges and respects its continuing association with Nyoongar people, the traditional custodians of the land upon which its campuses stand.

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN OF RESEARCH



The School of Nursing and Midwifery is a centre of excellence in research, proudly attributing this success to the research programs we have implemented, as well as our research team with links to international experts, leaders in industry, and clinical professionals.

We offer supervision both on campus and online. This means that higher degree by research students can study in their home country with remote supervision or come to Perth or Bunbury to study.

Our research programs were developed with the vision to positively impact on health and well-being and our work is underpinned by three cross cutting principles:

- Engagement with service users, families and communities;
- Commitment to conceptual and methodological innovation;
- Translation – consideration of the policy relevance and practical application of findings.

Research at the School of Nursing and Midwifery crosses the life span from health promotion, health maintenance and disease prevention through to end of life care, engaging with local and global communities.

I would like to acknowledge the staff of the School for their consistent hard work in undertaking and producing quality research and securing funding to achieve our goal of shaping policy and practice to implement change in health care and make a positive difference to the community.

**PROFESSOR LISA WHITEHEAD
ASSOCIATE DEAN RESEARCH
SCHOOL OF NURSING AND MIDWIFERY**

ECU RESEARCH THEMES & PRIORITY AREAS

Research at ECU is focused on 4 main research themes:

- Health: Prevention, detection and management of disease and injury
- Society and Culture: Impacting and supporting social change through ensuring diversity, creativity, cultural identity, education, personal and organisational success and social justice
- Natural and Built Environments: Understanding, harnessing, building and protecting environments for sustaining people, place and planet
- Securing Digital Futures: Enabling a safe, secure, productive and enterprising digital environment

ECU's research is characterised by its fundamental commitment to the pathway from basic research to translation to innovative implementation (including practice, service delivery, and industry adoption).

ECU's commitment to this research pathway is reflected in its cross-cutting approach to research across each of its research themes and priority areas. These cross-cutting approaches are:

- A strong research–practice interface, including research-led practice and practice-led research, that involves and engages the professions, service-delivery agencies and other end-users (patients, clients, consumers, industry).
- Strengthening the evidence base by responding to the needs of high-end practitioners, policy-makers, guideline developers, activists, companies and governments, thereby ensuring they have access to expert advice and robust data for decision-making.
- Assessment, evaluation, advocacy, policy-making throughout all stages of planning, measurement and monitoring as well as the early stages of innovation.
- Indigeneity and diversity to reach a fuller understanding of aboriginal knowledge, practice, and belief and the diversity of the cultures among which we live and research.



RESEARCH AREAS

IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR ADULTS WITH CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS

Innovative care delivery and person centered outcomes in:

- Self-management;
- Families;
- eHealth;
- Mental Health; and
- Clinical discovery.

IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR OLDER ADULTS

The aim of this research group is to develop, implement and evaluate interventions that optimise health and wellbeing outcomes for older adults. Research conducted within the group includes:

- Evidence based solutions that optimise dementia care;
- Carer wellbeing;
- Maintaining independence;
- Optimising mental and physical functioning;
- Community participation (social inclusion);
- Improving quality of life; and
- End of Life care.

SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTHCARE

Research group focus:

- Workforce (policy, planning and delivery and mediators of healthcare system outcomes).
- Quality improvement and quality assessment.
- Monitoring and medical errors, adverse events, sentinel events, patient safety.
- Accreditation policies, regulations and processes.
- Future workforce development.

CHILDBEARING, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Research group aim:

- The aim is to identify, implement and evaluate ways to improve health and well-being through nursing and/or midwifery care of pre-conception, expectant and new parents and of children and young people from 0-18 years of age
- The program aims to positively impact local, national and international practice in midwifery and nursing of children and young people.

CENTRE FOR NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

Our research performance is consistently assessed as being internationally recognised and highly cited. We collaborate with world-class researchers, industry leaders, clinical experts and engage with stakeholders, in the development, conduct and application of our research in the drive to conduct high quality research with real world impact.

At the Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Services Research, we undertake innovative research to develop knowledge, evaluate effectiveness and implement change in healthcare through interventions, treatments and knowledge to transform and shape policy and practice.

For more information, visit: www.ecu.edu.au/schools/nursing-and-midwifery/our-research

CONTACT:

Professor Lisa Whitehead
Associate Dean Research
Email: l.whitehead@ecu.edu.au



FLEXIBLE STUDY

At the School of Nursing and Midwifery, we understand that everyone is different. We all have different work arrangements, family responsibilities, learning styles and locations. That's why we offer the flexibility of studying many of our postgraduate courses online. This includes postgraduate taught units, Masters by Research and Doctor of Philosophy, including the Integrated PhD for students both domestic and overseas.

Tutorials are delivered via virtual classrooms and can be accessed anywhere, at any time, with regular support allowing access to supervisors and the ability to ask real time questions. Our online students receive our full support, just like their on-campus equivalents.



OUR RESEARCHERS AND SUPERVISORS

PROFESSOR DI TWIGG AM

PhD, MBA, B Hlth Sc (Nsg) Hons, RN, RM, FACN, FACHSM
Executive Dean
Email: d.twigg@ecu.edu.au

Professor Di Twigg is Executive Dean of the School of Nursing and Midwifery and Research Consultant in the Centre for Nursing Research at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital since 2009. Previously, Professor Twigg spent most of her career in the health industry and has held several senior health executive roles, most notably as Executive Director of Nursing Services at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, a 600 bed Magnet designated teaching hospital. She was awarded the Life Time Achievement Honour in 2017 and in 2019 was made a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to nursing through a range of leadership, education and advisory roles.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Fowler, A.C., Twigg, D., Jacob, E., Nattabi, B. (2017). An integrative review of rural and remote nursing graduate programs and experiences of nursing graduates. *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 27:e753-e766. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14211>
- Twigg, D.E., Myers, H., Duffield, C., Pugh, J.D., Gelder, L. & Roche, M. (2016). The impact of adding assistants in nursing to acute care hospital ward nurse staffing on adverse patient outcomes: an analysis of administrative health data. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*. 63, 189-200 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2016.09.008>
- Twigg, D., Gelder, L. & Myers, H. (2014) 'The impact of understaffed shifts on nursing-sensitive outcomes.' *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. DOI:10.1111/jan.12616
- Twigg, D., Myers, H., Duffield, C., Giles, M. & Evans, G. (2014) 'Is there an economic case for investing in nursing care – what does the literature tell us?' *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 71 (5) DOI:10.1111/jan.12577
- Twigg, D.E., Geelhoed, E.A., Bremner, A.P. & Duffield, C.M. (2013) The economic benefits of increased levels of nursing care in the hospital setting. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 69 (10) 2253-2261 DOI:10.1111/jan.12109
- Twigg, D. & McCullough, K. (2013). Nurse retention: A review of strategies to create and enhance positive practice environments in clinical settings. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 51(1), 85-92. DOI:10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2013.05.015
- Twigg, D.E., Duffield, C., Bremner, A.P., Rapley, P. & Finn, J. (2012) Impact of skill mix variations on patient outcomes following implementation of nursing hours per patient day staffing: A retrospective study. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 68 (10), 2253-2261
- Twigg D., Duffield C., Bremner A., Rapley P. & Finn J. (2011) The impact of the nursing hours per day (NHPPD) staffing method on patient outcomes: A retrospective analysis of patient and staffing data. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*. 48 (5) 540 – 548

GRANTS

- Duffield, C., Twigg, D., Williams, AM., Roche, M., Stoddart, C., Davis, S., Clarke, S. (2011) The Impact of adding nursing support workers (Assistants in Nursing) to patient, nurse and system (ward) level outcomes. Funding \$300,000 (ARC), \$121,200 WA DoH, \$16,500 Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital.
- Whitehead, L., Twigg, D., Dewar, J., Brown, D. Service innovation to improve outcomes and quality of care for patients receiving chemotherapy for breast and colorectal cancer at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. 2017. WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network, \$144,416.



Research Interests

- Nursing workforce and patient outcomes research which specifically relates to safe staffing levels and the relationships between staffing, patient, organisational and economic outcomes
- Safe assimilation of support staff into the clinical workplace
- Patient and staff outcomes in Magnet designated organisations

PROFESSOR LISA WHITEHEAD

PhD, MA, BSc

Associate Dean Research

Email: l.whitehead@ecu.edu.au

Lisa's research experience over the past 25 years has centred on improving health outcomes for people living with chronic conditions, self-management interventions and working with families to support the management of chronic conditions. In her role as Professor of Nursing Research, at Edith Cowan University (ECU), Western Australia, Lisa leads the research group "Improving health outcomes for people living with chronic conditions". Lisa also holds the roles of Associate Dean Research, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Director of the Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Services Research, ECU and is an honorary professor of research at the University of Otago, New Zealand. Previous positions include the roles of Head of Department and Director of the Strategy to Advance Research (STAR) in nursing and allied health, a national initiative funded by the New Zealand government.

Lisa has been awarded over \$5M in research funding during her career and is currently an investigator on a \$1.11M grant to explore factors predicting regression from pre-diabetes to normal glucose regulation, funded by the Health Research Council (HRC) of New Zealand. Lisa publishes regularly in nursing and wider health journals and values capacity building of early career researchers and higher degree by research students through research experience, publication and presentations.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Whitehead, L., Ghosh, M., Kirk Walker, D., Bloxsome, D., Vafeas, C., & Wilkinson, A. (2019). The relationship between specialty nurse certification and patient, nurse and organizational outcomes: A systematic review. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*, 93, 1-11. Doi: 10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2019.02.001
- Foster, M., Whitehead, L., & Arabiat, D. (2019). Development and validation of the Needs of Children Questionnaire (NCQ): An instrument to measure children's self reported needs in hospital. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, accepted article. doi: 10.1111/jan.14099.
- Trip, H., Whitehead, L., Crowe, M., Mirfin-Veitch, B., & Daffue, C. (2019). Aging with intellectual disabilities in families: Navigating ever-changing seas—A theoretical model. *Qualitative Health Research*. doi: 10.1177/1049732319845344.
- Saunders, R., Seaman, K., Ashford, C., Sullivan, T., McDowall, J., Whitehead, L., Ewens, B., Pedler, K., Gullick, K., (2018), An eHealth program for patients undergoing a total hip arthroplasty: Protocol for a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 20(6), Article no. e137, *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, DOI: 10.2196/resprot.9654.

GRANTS

- Understanding health beliefs of young Aboriginal people with type 2 diabetes, Healthway (WA Health Promotion Foundation), Health Promotion Research - Exploratory Research Grants, 2019 - 2020, \$75,000.
- Exploring cancer survivorship in a community setting, WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network, Grant, 2019 - 2020, \$73,485.
- The impact of camps on physical, psychological and social outcomes in children and young people living with chronic musculoskeletal conditions., Edith Cowan University, ECU Industry Engagement Grant, 2019 - 2020, \$92,476.



Research Interests

- Improving clinical outcomes for people with chronic conditions
- Family interventions to support the management of chronic conditions in adults
- Supporting older adults to age in place
- mHealth interventions

PROFESSOR CHRISTINE DUFFIELD

BScN MHP PhD FACN FACHSM FAICD FAAN
Professor of Nursing and Health Services Management
Email: c.duffield@ecu.edu.au

Christine is one of the top 10 most-cited Australian and New Zealand nursing and midwifery professors. Her research focuses on nurse staffing and the use of nurses, nursing leadership and a range of current issues facing the nursing workforce. She led the first study in Australia which examined the relationship between nursing numbers, the mix of staff and patient and staff outcomes. Christine has focused on transforming the nursing sector over the course of her 40-year career. During this time, she has worked extensively with state and federal decision-makers as well as internationally, with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Council of Nurses (ICN), to drive change and innovation in health care delivery. As a result, she is highly regarded by practitioners as a researcher who understands the world in which they work and can translate results into practice and policy.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Duffield, C., Roche, M., Debono, D. and Wise, S. Harnessing ward level administrative data and expert knowledge to improve staffing decisions. A multi-method case study. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. Accepted August 2019.
- Duffield, C., Twigg, D., Roche, M., Williams, A. and Wise, S. Uncovering the disconnect between nursing workforce policy intentions, implementation, and outcomes: lessons learned from the addition of a nursing assistant role. *Policy, Politics and Nursing Practice*. Accepted August 2019.
- Duffield, C., Gardner, G., Doubrovsky, A. and Wise, S. Manager, clinician or both? Nurse managers' engagement in clinical care activities. *Journal of Nursing Management*. Accepted August 2019.
- Duffield, C., Roche, M., Twigg, D., Williams, A., Rowbotham, S. and Clarke S. (2018) Adding unregulated nursing support workers to ward staffing: exploration of a natural experiment. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. 27(19-20), 3768 - 3779.
- Blay, N., Roche, M., Duffield, C. and Xu, X. (2017) Intra-hospital transfers and adverse patient outcomes: An analysis of administrative health data. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. 26(23/24), 4927-4935.
- Gardner, G., Duffield, C., Doubrovsky, A., Bui, U., Adams, M. (2017) The Structure of Nursing: A national examination of titles and practice profiles. *International Nursing Review*. 64(2), 233 - 241.
- Gardner, G., Duffield, C., Doubrovsky, A., Adams, M. (2016) Identifying advanced practice: A national survey of a nursing workforce. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*. 55, 60 - 70.
- Duffield, C., Roche, M., Dimitrelis, S., Homer, C. and Buchan J. (2015) Instability in patient and nurse characteristics, unit complexity, and patient and system outcomes. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 71(6), 1288 - 1298.

GRANTS

- Drennan J, Browne J, Griffiths P, Murphy A, Duffield C, Scott A. Taskforce on Staffing and Skillmix for Nursing. The Health Research Board Ireland. 2016-2019.
- Gardner G, Duffield C, Gardner A, Adrian A, Fry M, Chaperon. Research and development of a national framework for Advanced Practice in nursing. ARC Linkage Grant. 2014-2016.
- Duffield C, Twigg D, Williams A, Roche M, Stoddart C, Bradley K, Davis S, Clarke S. The impact of adding nursing support workers (assistants in nursing) to patient, nurse and system (ward) level outcomes. ARC Linkage Grant. 2011-2014.



Research Interests

- Nursing workforce
- Nurse staffing
- Staffing and patient safety

PROFESSOR EVALOTTE MÖRELIUS

PhD, MSN, RN

Professor of Nursing (Children and Young People)

Email: e.morelius@ecu.edu.au

Professor Evalotte Mörelius, specialist in Paediatric and Neonatal Nursing, holds a Professorial position at ECU and Perth Children's Hospital. Previously, Evalotte was the Head of Nursing Science and director of the Paediatric master program at Linköping University, Sweden. She was President of the Swedish Association of Pediatric Nurses (2008–2013) and board member of the Paediatric Nursing Associations of Europe. In 2015, Evalotte was visiting the National University of Singapore on STINT fellowship.

The research interest is Stress within the family. The aim is to develop and evaluate methods to prevent and decrease stress in childhood. To measure stress, Evalotte has specialized in salivary cortisol and the development of the stress system in early life. Evalotte also evaluate methods with the potential to increase the interaction between preterm infants and their parents since the quality of the interaction will affect the stress levels. Evalotte is PI of the Stress Research Program at ECU and leader of a Stress Interest Group (STING).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Ivars K, Nelson N, Theodorsson A, Theodorsson E, Ström J, Mörelius E. Development of Salivary Cortisol Circadian Rhythm in Preterm Infants. *Plos One*. 2017;12(8):e0182685. doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0182685
- Ivars K, Nelson N, Theodorsson A, Theodorsson E, Ström J, Mörelius E. Development of Cortisol Circadian Rhythm in Full-term Infants. *PLoS One* 2015 18;10(6):e0129502.
- Mörelius E, Örténstrand A, Theodorsson E, Frostell A. Continuous skin-to-skin contact after preterm birth and the effects on salivary cortisol, parental stress, depression, and breastfeeding. *Early Human Development* 2015;91:63–70.
- Edéll-Gustafsson U, Angelhoff, C, Johnsson, E, Karlsson, J, Mörelius, E. Hindering and buffering factors for parental sleep in neonatal care. A phenomenographic study. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 2015;24:717–727.
- Mörelius E, Hemmingsson H. Parents of children with physical disabilities - perceived health in relation to parental night-time attention. *Child: Health, Care and Development*, 2014;40(3):412–8. doi: 10.1111/cch.12079.
- Mörelius E, Berggren-Broström E, Westrup B, Sarman I, Örténstrand A. The Stockholm Neonatal Family-Centered Care Study: Effects on Salivary Cortisol in Infants and their Mothers. *Early Human Development*, 2012;88:575–81.
- Mörelius E, Theodorsson E, Nelson N. Stress at three-month immunization: Parents' and infants' salivary cortisol response in relation to the use of pacifier and oral glucose. *European Journal of Pain* 2009;13:202–208.
- Mörelius E, Theodorsson E, Nelson N. Salivary cortisol and mood and pain profiles during skin-to-skin care for an unselected group of mothers and infants in neonatal intensive care. *Pediatrics* 2005;116:1105–1113.

GRANTS

- Continuous Skin-to-skin contact for preterm infants – a RCT funded by FORSS and County Council of Östergötland, Sweden (2016–2018).
- LiMoNid, a guide for parents in how to read their preterm infants' signals – a RCT project funded by 'Lilla Barnets Fond' and the County Council of Östergötland, Sweden (2018–2020).
- Parents' sleep when the child is sick - A concept analysis funded by Nursing and Midwifery Office, WA (2019).
- Parents lived experiences of stress and coping when caring for a child with a chronic condition funded by PCH Foundation (2019–2020).



Research Interests

- Short- and long-term stress and stress prevention in children and their families
- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Parents' sleep when the child is sick
- Pain in children
- Parent-infant interaction and bonding

PROFESSOR BEVERLY O'CONNELL

PhD, MSc, BN (administration)
VC Professorial Fellow
Email: b.oconnell@ecu.edu.au

Professor Bev O'Connell has more than 25 years' experience teaching and researching in the areas of aged care, continence care, risk management and carer needs. She has held several senior academic roles nationally and internationally. She currently holds the positions of Honorary Professor, Deakin University, Melbourne and Adjunct Professor, School of Nursing, University of Manitoba, Canada.

Professor O'Connell has led large teams of researchers using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Her most substantial research work was the development and implementation of the Tri-focal model of care which included the research and development of evidence based educational materials for students and aged care staff. This innovative model of partnership centred aged care incorporates the teaching nursing home concept.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- O'Connell, B., Guse L and Greenslade L (2018) Does restructuring theory and clinical courses better prepare nursing students to manage residents with challenging behaviors in long-term care settings? *Gerontology & Geriatrics Education*, DOI: 10.1080/02701960.2018.1428573
- Ostaszkiwicz, J., O'Connell, B., and Dunning, T (2016). 'We just do the dirty work': dealing with incontinence, courtesy stigma and the low occupational status of care work in long-term aged care facilities. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 25, 2528–2541, doi: 10.1111/jocn.13292
- Ostaszkiwicz, J., O'Connell, B., Dunning, Trisha (2016) Fear and overprotection in Australian residential aged care facilities: the inadvertent impact of regulation on quality continence care, *Australasian journal on ageing*, vol. 35, no. 2, pp. 119-126, doi: 10.1111/ajag.12218
- Hutchinson, A. Rawson, H O'Connell, B Walker, H Bucknall, T Forbes, H Ostaszkiwicz, J. Ockerby C. (2017). Tri-focal model of care implementation: perspectives of residents and family. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* 49(1):33-43
- Hutchinson A., O'Connell B., Rawson H., Walker H. (2015) The Tri-focal Model of Care: Building staff capacity for partnership-centred, evidence-based residential aged care. *Australian Nursing and Midwifery Journal*, Vol. 23, No 2.
- Ostaszkiwicz J, O'Connell B, Lakhan, P, Hawkins M (2015) Ongoing challenges responding to behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia. *International Nursing Review*. doi:10.1111/inr.12180

GRANTS

- O'Connell, B., Thoresen, T., Aisling, S., Expanding the evidence base for early dementia intervention programs, Edith Cowan University, ECU Industry Engagement Grant, 2019 - 2020, \$100,845.
- O'Connell, B., Hutchinson A., Lakhan, P., & Hawkins, M. Department of Health & Ageing The Tri-focal Model of Care: Teaching and Research Aged Care Services. (2012 - 2014) \$660,000
- Department of Human Services, Public Health Division Bev O'Connell & Sue Bailey. Older Person's Health Promotion Innovative Grants. The Barwon Otway Centre for Community Wellness: a health promotion strategy to meet the specific needs of older persons who are carers \$298,502
- Dept of Health & Ageing (3 years). Bev O'Connell & Ms Joan Ostaszkiwicz. Residential Aged Care Continence Assessment Tool Project \$659,924



Research Interests

- Improving outcomes for older adults
- Optimising patient outcomes and wellbeing in hospital settings
- Optimising residential aged care

PROFESSOR DAVINA POROCK

PhD RN

Email: d.porock@ecu.edu.au

Professor Porock's research focuses on the care of older people with life-limiting conditions including the transition to palliative and end-of-life care. She has a particular interest in person-centred care and its impact on the quality of life of people in aged care settings. Professor Porock works with multiple research approaches and innovation in practice.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Rajamohan, S., Porock, D., Chang, Y-P. (2019). Understanding the Relationship Between Staff and Job Satisfaction, Stress, Turnover, and Staff Outcomes in the Person-Centered Care Nursing Home Arena. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* (Published as Early View)
- Li, J., Grandner, M., Chang, Y-P., Jungquist, C. and Porock, D. (2017). Person Centered Dementia Care and Sleep in Assisted Living Residents with Dementia: A Pilot Study, *Behavioral Sleep Medicine*, 15(2), 97-113. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15402002.2015.1104686>
- Caswell, G., Pollock, K., Harwood, R.H., Porock, D. (2015). Communication between family carers and health professionals about end-of-life care for older people in the acute hospital setting: a qualitative study. *Biomedcentral (BMC)*. <http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472684X/14/35>
- Porock, D., Clissett, P., Harwood, R.H., Gladman, J.R.F. (2015) Disruption, control and coping: Responses of and to the person with dementia in hospital. *Ageing and Society* 35(1), 37-63. DOI: 10.1017/S0144686X13000561
- Chang, Y. P., Li, J., & Porock+, D. (2013). The Effect on Nursing Home Resident Outcomes of Creating a Household within a Traditional Structure. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association*, 14(4), 293-299
- Porock, D., Parker Oliver, D., Petroski, G., & Rantz, M. (2010). The MDS mortality risk index: The evolution of a method for predicting 6-month mortality in nursing home residents. *BMC Research Notes* 3, 200
- Porock, D., Pollock, K., & Jurgens, F. (2009). Dying in public: the nature of dying in an acute hospital setting. * *Journal of Housing for the Elderly*, 23(1), 10-28.
- Porock, D., & Parker Oliver, D. (2007). Recognizing dying in nursing home residents. * *Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing* 9(5), 270-278.

GRANTS

- 2018 CARE 2050 – Developing collaborative med-tech products. Higher Education Innovation Funding, UK £70,000 GBP
- 2012-2016 The Institute for Person-Centered Care. John R. Oishei Foundation and State University of New York at Buffalo. \$276,000 USD
- 2010-2012 Care of the Dying in Hospital: The Patient with Dementia and Their Family, Alzheimer's Society UK £125,000 GBP



Research Interests

- End-of-life/palliative care in aged care
- Person-centred care in aged care
- Mixed methods
- Measurement and instrument development
- Innovation and practice development

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ANGELA CHRISTIANSEN

PhD, MSc, PGDipEd, BSc (Hons)
Associate Dean Teaching & Learning
Email: a.christiansen@ecu.edu.au

Associate Professor Angela Christiansen is an experienced educationalist and researcher who has held senior academic leadership roles in Australia and the UK. As Associate Dean Teaching and Learning, she provides academic leadership to staff within the School to ensure an excellent student experience. She is committed to the development and enhancement of professional education through innovation, collaborative relationships with industry and evidence informed teaching and learning practice.

Her research interests include teaching and learning particularly in relation to those factors that influence student engagement and success. She is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and was a Quality Reviewer of Professional Registration Programmes on behalf of the UK Nursing and Midwifery Council. Her clinical research interests include workforce development, service improvement and innovation, and safe and compassionate practice. In the UK Angela has led projects in partnership with NHS organisations, including NHS England to evaluate service improvement, patient safety enhancement and other key initiatives. She has a number of collaborative projects in progress with industry partners in Australia including a project to identify the role, impact and experiences of volunteers working with frail elderly in acute care services. She is a reviewer for a number of professional journals including *The Journal of Clinical Nursing*, *Nurse Education Today* and the *Journal of Leadership and Management*.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Christiansen, A., Jacob, E., Twigg, D., (2018), Is it time to consider a four year Nursing Bachelor Degree in Australia? A discussion paper. *Collegian: The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research*, 25(5), 567-571, Elsevier B.V., DOI: 10.1016/j.colegn.2018.01.004.
- Christiansen, A., Coventry, L., Graham, R., Jacob, E., Twigg, D., Whitehead, L., (2018), Intentional rounding in acute adult healthcare settings: A systematic mixed-method review. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27(9-10), 1759-1792, DOI: 10.1111/jocn.14370.
- Zubairu, K., Christiansen, A., Kirkcaldy, A., Kirton, JA., Kelly, CA., Simpson, P., Gillespie, A., Brown, J., (2017), An evaluation of National Health Service England's Care Maker Programme: A mixed methods analysis. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 26(23-24), 4634-4645, West Sussex, United Kingdom, Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, DOI: 10.1111/jocn.13809.
- Christiansen, A., Barnes, T., Bewley, T., Kaehne, A., Lynes, D., Kirkcaldy, A., (2016), An evaluation of the Open and Honest care Programme in acute NHS trusts in Northern England. *Journal of Nursing Management*, 24(6), 755-765, DOI: 10.1111/jonm.12379.
- Christiansen, A., O'Brien, M., Kirton, J., Zubairu, K., Bray, L., (2015), Delivering compassionate care: The enablers and barriers. *British Journal of Nursing*, 24(16), 833-837, London, United Kingdom, MA Healthcare, DOI: 10.12968/bjn.2015.24.16.833.
- Bray, L., O'Brien, M., Kirton, J., Zubairu, K., Christiansen, A., (2014), The role of professional education in developing compassionate practitioners: A mixed methods study exploring the perceptions of health professionals and pre-registration students. *Nurse Education Today*, 34(3), 480-486, UK, Churchill Livingstone, DOI: 10.1016/j.nedt.2013.06.017.

GRANTS

- A cohort study to inform the development of a strategic intervention to develop EI, student well-being and retention across an undergraduate nursing and nursing/midwifery university program in WA., Edith Cowan University, SNM Strategic Initiative Fund, 2017 - 2018, \$10,000.



Research Interests

- Sports injury epidemiology, with a focus on the development and application of rigorous approaches
- Injury surveillance methodology and surveillance system design
- The design, implementation and formal evaluation of injury prevention programs
- The uptake of injury prevention evidence into policy and practice

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DEBORAH KIRK WALKER

DNP, MSN, FNP-BC, NP-C, AOCN, FAANP
Email: d.kirkwalker@ecu.edu.au

Deborah is an Associate Dean/Associate Professor in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at Edith Cowan University. She received her BSN(1995) and MSN(1999) from Troy University, USA and her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)(2007) from the University of South Alabama, USA. She has practiced for more than 20 years as an oncology nurse practitioner in various settings. Her current work is expanding cancer/supportive care nursing and nurse practitioner education at home and in parts of sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, she has developed and expanded a mobile application for cancer resources for community resources locally in Alabama to help fill a gap identified in the clinical setting. Dr Walker has published her work in various journals and books including the Clinical Manual for the Oncology Advanced Practice Nurse, Core Curriculum for Oncology Nursing (5th and 6th eds.), 21st Century Nursing Leadership, and Diseases of the Breast (5th ed.) medical text book, among others. Currently she is an editor for the Chemotherapy Handbook, 4th ed. Dr Walker is a recognised leader among the oncology community both locally, nationally and internationally. She is the past president of the Oncology Nursing Society Foundation (2016-17) and served on the Oncology Nursing Society Board of Directors as Director at Large (2012-15). Her recent awards include the 2015-16 American Association of Colleges of Nursing Excellence and Innovation in Teaching; the 2016 American Cancer Society Lane Adams Quality of Life Award; and in 2017, she was inducted into the American Association of Nurse Practitioners as a Fellow (FAANP).

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Whitehead, L. & Walker, D.K. (2019). Communication skills training for health care professionals who work with cancer patients, *AJN*, 119(7), 45.
- Whitehead, L. & Walker, D.K. (2019). Home-based multidimensional survivorship programmes for breast cancer survivors. *International Journal of Nursing Practice*, 2019;e12756. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ijn.12756>.
- Whitehead, L., Ghosh, M., Walker, D. K., Bloxsome, D., Vafeas, C. & Wilkinson, A. (2019). The relationship between specialty nurse certification and patient, nurse and organizational outcomes: A systematic review. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnurstu.2019.02.001>
- Walker, D.K. & Whitehead, L. (2018). Breast surgery for metastatic breast cancer. *British Journal of Community Nursing*, 23(7), 334-335.
- Walker, D.K., Sipples, R., Bagcivan, G, Bakitas, M. (2017). Cancer and palliative care in the United States, Turkey, and Malawi: Developing Global Collaborations. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 4(3), 209-219. DOI: 10.4103/apjon.apjon_31_17
- Sipples, R., Taylor, R., Walker, D.K., Bagcivan, G., Dionne-Odom, N., Bakitas, M. (2017). Perioperative Palliative Care Considerations for Surgical Oncology Nurses. *Seminars in Oncology Nursing*, 33(1), 9-22.
- Walker, D.K., *Hardeman, A., Owen, L. & Frank, J. (2015). Information at the point of care: An informational application for cancer resources. *Computers, Informatics, Nursing*, 33(9), 390-395.
- Walker, D.K., Barton-Burke, M., Saria, M., Gosselin, T., Ireland, A., Norton, V., & Newton, S. (2015). Everyday Advocates: Nursing Advocacy is a Full-Time Job - Nurses stand up for patients, colleagues, the profession, and themselves. *American Journal of Nursing*, 115 (7), 61-65.

GRANTS

- Exploring Cancer Survivorship in a community setting. Deborah Kirk Walker, DNP, Lisa Whitehead, PhD, RN, David Joske, MD. The WA Cancer and Palliative Care Network Clinical Implementation Unit, 2019-2020, \$19,916.



Research Interests

- Oncology
- Survivorship
- Supportive Care
- Psycho oncology
- Palliative Care
- Mobile Applications for Practice

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DIANA ARABIAT

PhD, MSc, BSc (Hons), RN
Email: d.arabiat@ecu.edu.au

Diana Arabiat is an Associate Professor of Clinical Research and Innovation. She has been a nurse most of her career, and held research positions in nursing research and leadership in several countries. Her research and teaching focus on supporting families to effectively self-manage and cope with chronic/long-term conditions, using both quantitative and qualitative approaches.

She has authored over 50 publications in peer-reviewed journals of high impact factors. Her research is largely interdisciplinary. She works with nurses, physicians, scientists, statisticians, educators, and a range of others. Her research has an international focus, which began during her doctoral studies in the UK and has grown in scope since. Diana works with colleagues in the UK, Sweden, Turkey, UAE, Jordan, Egypt, Fiji, Marshall Island, USA and South Africa.

Diana is a member of the International Family Nursing Association (IFNA)-serving on the Practice Committee and ORIGINS study in WA. She is member also of the Australian College of Children and Young People's Nurses (ACCYPN) and the International Child and Family Centred Care Research Collaborate.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Arabiat, D., Whitehead, L., Towell-Barnard, M., AL Jabery, M., Shields, L., & Abu Sabbah, E. (2019) Traditional methods for managing illness in newborns and infants in an Arab-society. *International Nursing Review*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1043659618794256>
- Arabiat, D., Whitehead, L., Foster, M., Shields, L., & Harris, L. (2018) Parents' experiences of Family-Centred Care practice. *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 42, 39-44.
- Arabiat, D., Whitehead, L., & AL Jabery, M. (2018). The 12-year prevalence and trends of childhood disabilities in Australia: Findings from the Survey of Disability, Aging and Carers. *Journal: Child: Care, Health and Development*, 44(5), 697-703.
- Arabiat, D., Whitehead, AL Jabery, M., Darawad, M., Geraghty, S., & Halasa, S. (2018). Newborn Care Practices of Mothers in Arab Societies: Implication for Infant Welfare. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*, (In Press).
- Arabiat,D.H., Shaheen,A., Nassar,O., Saleh,M., Mansour,A. (2018) Social and health determinants of adolescent's wellbeing in Jordan: Implications for Policy and Practice". *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 39, 55-60.
- Arabiat,D.H., Collyer,D.A., Hamdan-Mansour,A., Khalil,A., Darawad,M. (2018) The impact of a mother's emotional strains and disclosure of cancer on her child's defensiveness and adjustment to cancer". *Cancer Nursing*, 41 (4), 290-297.
- Hamdan-Mansour,A., Abdel Razeq,N., AbdelHaq,B., Arabiat,D.H., Khalil,A. (2017) Displaced Syrian children's reported physical and mental wellbeing. *Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, 22 (4): 186-193.
- Matar,E., Arabiat,D.H., Foster,M. (2016) Oral glucose efficacy on neonate's pain responses at the NICU: A quasi experimental trial of two clinical procedures. *Applied Nursing Research*, 32, 36-40.

GRANTS

- The impact of camps on physical, psychological and social outcomes in children and young people living with chronic musculoskeletal conditions, Edith Cowan University, ECU Industry Engagement Grant, 2019 - 2020, \$92,476.
- Understanding health beliefs of young Aboriginal people with type 2 diabetes, Healthway (WA Health Promotion Foundation), Health Promotion Research - Exploratory Research Grants, 2018, \$75,000.
- Parent and staff perceptions of Family-Centred Care (FCC) and importance of parents needs in rural hospitals'. University of Jordan, Grant, 2019, \$10,000.



Research Interests

- Understanding the patient and family experience of illnesses.
- Improving and tailoring support to meet the needs of families whose children need health care
- Psychometric properties of tools
- Coping and wellbeing in chronic illnesses

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR ELISABETH JACOB

PhD, MEd., GradDipCritCare, DipAppSci(Nsg), RN, FACN
Email: e.jacob@ecu.edu.au

Elisabeth Jacob is an experienced clinical nurse, educationalist and researcher. Her strong clinical links provide essential networks for her research areas of evidence based practice, nurse education, and nursing workforce. In her previous position as Associate Dean Nursing she was responsible for the leadership of curriculum design, development and delivery for nursing programs. Elisabeth's research has made a significant contribution to the body of literature around nursing education, transition to practice and various nursing workforce roles and responsibilities. Her research is heavily applied, and she has an impressive publication list with a number of high quality papers, book chapters and reports. Current projects include investigating the evidence base for the collection of blood samples through peripheral intravenous cannulas, simulation in health education and the development of critical thinking skills in nursing students.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Coventry, L., Davies, H., Wang, C., Jacob A., & Jacob E. (2019) Drawing blood from peripheral intravenous cannula compared with venepuncture: A systematic review and meta-analysis, *Journal of Advanced Nursing*. 00, 1-27. doi: 10.1111/jan.14078
- Ryder, M., Jacob, E., & Hendricks, J. (2019) An inductive qualitative approach to explore Nurse Practitioners views on leadership and research; An international perspective" *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. Doi:10.1111/jocn.14853
- Jacob, E., Duffield, C., & Jacob, A. (2019) Validation of data using Rasch Analysis in a tool measuring changes in critical thinking in Nursing Students, *Nurse Education Today*. 76(2019), 196-199. Doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2019.02.012
- Jacob, E., Duffield, C., & Jacob, D. (2018) Development of an Australian nursing critical thinking tool using a Delphi process, *Journal of Advanced Nursing*.74(9), 2241-2247. doi:10.111/jan.13732.
- Christiansen, A., Twigg, D., & Jacob, E. (2018) Is it time to consider a four year Nursing Bachelor Degree in Australia? A discussion paper. *Collegian* doi:10.1016/j.colegn.2018.01.004.
- Raymond, A., James, A., Jacob, E., & Lyons, J. (2018) Influence of perceptions and stereotypes of the nursing role on career choice in secondary students: A regional perspective. *Nurse Education Today*, 62,150-157. Doi: 10.1016/j.nedt.2017.12.028.
- Fowler, A., Jacob, E., Twigg, D., Nattabi, B. (2017) An Integrative review of rural and remote nursing graduate programs and experiences of nursing graduates, *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, DOI: 10.1111/jocn.14211P1
- Jacob, E., McKenna, L., & D'Amore, A. (2017) Role expectations of different levels of nurse on graduation: A mixed methods approach, *Collegian: The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research*, 24(2), 135-145. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.colegn.2016.01.006>.

GRANTS

- 2018 WA Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust, \$14,956, "Sampling blood from peripheral intravenous cannulas and hemolysis rates: an observational study", Jacob, E., Coventry, L., Davies, H., Jacob, A., Husain, M., and Jacob, D.
- 2018 WA Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust, \$5,000, "Investigation of delegation practices that exist between the Registered Nurse (RN) and the Assistant in Nursing (AIN) in the acute care environment" Crevacore, C., Duffield, C., & Jacob, E.
- 2017 WA Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust, \$14, 638 for research titled "Prevalence of blood sampling from intravenous cannulas in acute healthcare" Jacob, E., Coventry, L, Davies, H, Wang, C.



Research Interests

- Nurse Education
- Transition to practice
- Intravenous access
- Evidence based nursing practice
- Nursing workforce

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR SARA BAYES

PhD RN RM
Director, Midwifery Studies
Email: s.bayes@ecu.edu.au

Sara is a registered midwife in Australia and is a Principal Supervisor of PhD and Master by Research students at ECU. She coordinates the ECU Master of Midwifery (Research) program, is a founding member of the ECU Childbearing, Children's and Young Peoples Research Group, and has supervised research students to investigate a broad range of issues. She leads a program of research work focusing on midwifery practice, midwifery workforce issues, and the development and testing of methodologies to facilitate the effective, rapid and sustainable implementation of research evidence into midwifery practice and maternity care. Her projects involve other academics, students, industry partners and maternity care consumers.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Book

- De Vitry Smith SA, Bayes S (2018) Skills for Midwifery Practice (Australia and New Zealand edition). Australia: Elsevier.

Journal Articles

- Bayes S, De Leo A, Juggins E and Whitehead L (2019). 'Australian midwives' experiences of implementing practice change'. *Midwifery*. 70: 38-45.
- Bloxsome D, Ireson D, Bayes S, Evans G (2019) Factors associated with midwives' job satisfaction and intention to stay in the profession: An integrative review. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. 28(3-4): 386-399.P2
- Geraghty S, Speelman C, Bayes S (2018) Fighting A Losing Battle: Midwives Experiences of Workplace Stress. *Women and Birth*. Aug 3. pii: S1871-5192(18)30124-0. doi: 10.1016/j.wombi.2018.07.012. [Epub ahead of print].
- Bayes S, & Ewens B (2017) Registered Nurses' experiences of caring for pregnant and postpartum women in general hospital settings: A systematic review and meta-synthesis of qualitative data. *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 26(5-6):599-608.
- Bayes S, Fenwick, J, Jennings D (2016) Readiness for practice change: evaluation of a tool for the Australian midwifery context. *Women and Birth* 3: 240-4.
- Bayes S, Fenwick J, Hauck Y (2012) 'Off everyone's radar': Australian women's experiences of medically necessary elective caesarean section' *Midwifery* 28(6): e900-9 (ePub Feb 16 2012).
- Bayes S, Fenwick J, Hauck Y (2012) 'Becoming redundant: Australian women's experiences of pregnancy after being unexpectedly scheduled for a medically necessary term elective caesarean section' *International Journal of Childbirth* 2(2), 73-84.

GRANTS

- WA Primary Health Alliance Project Grant: 'Better together: Supporting perinatal and infant mental health services'. Team: Lynn Priddis (PI), Caroline Barratt-Pugh (PI), and Sara Bayes (PI). \$250 000
- Edith Cowan University Special Initiative Fund - Establishment of a new program of midwifery research. \$34188
- Edith Cowan University Early Career Researcher Grant: Project funding - 'Midwifery Change Leaders' Experience of Introducing Clinical Innovation: A Grounded Theory Study'. \$26000



Research Interests

- Midwifery
- Health workforce
- Health Care Evidence / Practice Change Implementation
- Qualitative methodologies
- Participatory Action Research

DR SHEILA MORTIMER-JONES

PhD, BSc (Hons)

Email: s.mortimerjones@ecu.edu.au

Dr Sheila Mortimer-Jones is a Senior Lecturer in mental health nursing within the School of Nursing and Midwifery. She registered as a mental health nurse in England in 1994 and has worked in acute mental health units in England, New Zealand, Nauru and Australia. Her roles have included Community Mental Health Nurse, First Psychosis Liaison Officer and Triage Nurse. She has been an academic since 2013, teaching bioscience and mental health to undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students. Her Bachelor's degree is in Biomedical Science, and her PhD is in Molecular Biology. Sheila has presented her mental health and nursing research at international conferences in Berlin, Melbourne and Newcastle, NSW. Sheila was awarded the Vice Chancellor's citation for Excellence in Enhancing Learning in 2018.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Mortimer-Jones, S., Morrison, P., Munib, A., Paolucci, F., Neale, S., Hellewell, A., Sinwan, J., Hungerford, C. (2019). Staff and client perspectives of the Open Borders programme for people with borderline personality disorder. *International Journal of Mental Health Nursing*, 28(4), 971-979. doi: 10.1111/inm.12602
- Mortimer-Jones, S., Stomski, N., Cope, V., Maurice, L., Theroux, J. (2019). Association between temporomandibular symptoms, anxiety and quality of life among nursing students. *Collegian*, 26(3), 373-377
- Agland, S., Lydon, A., Shaw, S., Lea, R., Mortimer-Jones, S., Lechner-Scott. (2018). Can a stress management programme reduce stress and improve quality of life in people diagnosed with multiple sclerosis? *Multiple Sclerosis Journal – Experimental, Translational and Clinical*, 4 (4). <https://doi.org/10.1177/2055217318813179>
- Mortimer-Jones, S., Fetherston, C. (2018). The nursification of a bioscience unit and its impact on student satisfaction and learning in an undergraduate nursing degree. *Nurse Education Today*, 64, 1-4.
- Mortimer-Jones, S., Wall, P., Russell, S. (2018). Quantitative analysis of anxiety levels of nursing students studying bioscience in Australia. *Nursing & Health Sciences*, 20(4), 452-457.
- Mortimer-Jones, S., Morrison, P., Munib, A., Paolucci, F., Neale, S., Bostwick, A., Hungerford, C. (2016). Recovery and borderline personality disorder: A description of the innovative open borders program. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, 37(9), 624-630.
- Mortimer-Jones, S.M., Phillips, N.D., La, T., Naresh, R., Hampson, D.J. (2008). Penicillin resistance in the intestinal spirochaete *Brachyspira pilosicoli* associated with OXA-136 and OXA-137, two new variants of the class D β -lactamase OXA-63. *Journal of Medical Microbiology*, 57(9), 1122-1128.



Research Interests

- Mental health nursing
- Biomedical science

DR MANDY TOWELL-BARNARD

DCur, MCur, BCur (Ed et Adm), PG Dip Crit Care, RN
Email: a.towell-barnard@ecu.edu.au

Dr Towell-Barnard is a Senior Research Fellow and an Adjunct Research Fellow in the Centre for Nursing Research, at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. She is a registered nurse, with experience in critical care nursing. She completed her PhD in 2012 and focused on quantitative research design methodology and theory generating design. Her research focuses on improving clinical outcomes within the acute care setting for adults with Type 2 diabetes and cognitive impairment; morbid obesity; and family experience in the acute care setting. Her research also explores emotional intelligence and well-being.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Ghosh, M., Twigg, D., Kutzer, Y., Towell-Barnard, A., DeJong, G., Dodds, M. (2019). The validity and utility of violence risk assessment tools to predict patient violence in acute care settings: An integrative literature review. *International Journal of Mental Health Nursing*, Accepted for publication. DOI: 10.1111/inm.12645
- Coventry, L., Hosking, J., Chan, D., Coral, E., Towell-Barnard, A., Twigg, D., Rickard, C. (2019). Variables associated with successful vascular access cannulation in hemodialysis patients: A prospective cohort study. *BMC Nephrology*. BNEP-D-18-00649R2
- Arabiat, D., Whitehead, L., Al Jabery, M., Towell-Barnard, A., Shields, L., Abu Sabah, E. (2019). Traditional methods for managing illness in newborns and infants in an Arab society. *International Nursing Review*, 1-9.
- Steinwandel, U., Gibson, N., Towell-Barnard, A., Parsons, R., Rippey, J., Rosman, J. (2019). Does the intravascular volume status in haemodialysis patients measured by inferior vena cava ultrasound correlate with bioimpedance spectroscopy? *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, Jan 2019:1-12. DOI: 10.1111/jocn.14804
- Steinwandel, U., Gibson, NP., Towell-Barnard, A., Rippey, JC, Rosman, J. (2018). Educating renal nurses-inferior vena caval ultrasound for intravascular volume assessment. *Renal Society of Australasia Journal*. March 2018, manuscript ID:RSA-2018-0002
- Steinwandel, U., Gibson, NP., Towell-Barnard, A., Rippey, JC, Rosman, J. (2018). Measuring the prevalence of intradialytic hypotension in a satellite dialysis clinic: Are we too complacent? *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. Jan 2018.
- Steinwandel, U., Gibson, NP., Towell-Barnard, A., Rippey, JC, Rosman, J. (2018). Measuring the prevalence of intradialytic hypotension in a satellite dialysis clinic: Are we too complacent? *Journal of Clinical Nursing*. Jan 2018.
- Whitehead, L., Jacobs, E., Towell, A., Abu'Qamar, M., Cole-Heath, A. (2017). The role of the family in supporting the self-management of chronic conditions: A qualitative systematic review. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 2017; 1-9.

GRANTS

- Matthews, A., Towell-Barnard, A., Gray, L., Whitehead, L., MacDonald, M., Fanning, A., Boyd, C., (2019). Examining consumer experiences of a tertiary hospital emergency department in Western Australia: A mixed methods study. WA Nursing & Midwifery Office Grant, \$29,500.
- Whitehead, L., Pearson, G., Davis, E., Towell-Barnard, A., Maple-Brown, L., Arabiat, D., Shah, M., Kirkham, R. (2018). Improving Aboriginal health and well-being: young people and type 2 diabetes young people. Healthway (Western Australian Health Promotion Foundation). Funding: \$75,000.
- Towell, A., Twigg, D., Daniels, G., Whitehead, L., Coventry, L., Davis, S., Cusack, N., Lin, E. (2016). Cognitive Impairment and Readmission rates in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Admitted to the Acute Care Setting: A cohort study. Funding \$47,392.00, RAC Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital



Research Interests

- Optimising outcomes for patients with diabetes in the acute care setting.
- Optimising outcomes for patients with cognitive impairment and diabetes in the acute care setting
- Optimising outcomes for patients with morbid obesity.
- Prevention of violence and aggression towards hospital staff.
- Family experience within the acute care setting.

DR BEVERLEY EWENS

PhD

Email: b.ewens@ecu.edu.au

Beverley is Associate Dean in the School of Nursing and Midwifery at ECU. She has been a critical care nurse for over thirty years and has held senior roles within the UK and Australian health care settings. These include senior clinical, managerial and educational roles. She has a Postgraduate Diploma in Critical Care from The University of Wales College of Medicine, and completed her PhD with ECU in 2015 exploring the use of therapeutic story telling in intensive care survivors in November 2015. She is currently leading a research group, undertaking an intervention study which will determine the impact of an m-health recovery program on the quality of life of ICU survivors. Her PhD was by publication, of which five papers have been published. Beverley's other research interests lie in the care of patients with delirium and obesity.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Ewens, B., Whitehead, L., Sundin, D., Seaman, K., and Hendricks, J. (2019). ICUTogether a web based recovery program for intensive care survivors: a randomized controlled trial protocol. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 8(1), e10935.
- Fowler, A. C., Ewens, B., Vafeas, C., Delves, L., Haywood, C., Nannup, N., and Baum, G. (2018). Closing the gap: A whole of school approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inclusivity in higher education. *Nurse Education in Practice*, 30, 86-90.
- Ewens, B., Hendricks, J., and Sundin, D. (2018). Surviving ICU: Stories of recovery. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 74(7), 1554-1563.
- Ewens, B., Hendricks, J., and Sundin, D. (2017). The usefulness of the biographic approach for storytelling: research practice implications. *Nurse Researcher*, 24(3), 19-24.
- Ewens, B., Hendricks, J., & Sundin, D. (2015). The use, prevalence and potential benefits of a diary as a therapeutic intervention/tool to aid recovery following critical illness in ICU: a literature review. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 24(9-10), 1406-1425. doi: 10.1111/jocn.12736
- Ewens, B., Hendricks, J., & Sundin, D. (2014). Never ending stories: Visual diarizing to recreate autobiographical memory of intensive care unit survivors. *Nursing in Critical Care*, published online 6 October 2014. doi:10.1111/nicc.12093
- Bayes, S., and Ewens, B. (2016). Registered Nurses' experiences of caring for pregnant and postpartum women in general hospital settings: A systematic review and metasynthesis of qualitative data. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 26, 599-608.
- Ewens, B., Chapman, R., Tulloch, A., & Hendricks, J. (2013). ICU survivors' utilisation of diaries post discharge: A qualitative descriptive study. *Australian Critical Care*, 27, 28-35. doi: 10.1016/j.aucc.2013.07.001.

GRANTS

- ECU Early Career Research Grant (2016) (\$30,000)
- Joondalup Health Campus (\$42,000)



Research Interests

- Critical care recovery
- Intensive care unit (ICU) patient diaries
- Obesity
- Delirium
- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people's health

DR LINDA COVENTRY

PhD, MS, BSc, DipSc, RN
Email: l.coventry@ecu.edu.au

Linda is a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Nursing and Midwifery and has an adjunct position with the Centre for Nursing Research at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. Linda was awarded a NHMRC Scholarship to complete her PhD and has had grant success totalling over \$357,000 and as well as two full-time Research Fellowships (\$875,250) with the School. She has a clinical background with over 20 years of intensive care nursing experience and 15 years' experience in research. Linda's research interests include improving patient outcomes, translation of evidence based practice and implementation science. She has research skills in both quantitative and qualitative research methods particularly: cohort studies, cross-sectional studies, systematic reviews and meta-analysis, RCTs, and instrument development. Linda's area of strength is with statistical data analysis. Linda is an active member of the Australian Vascular Access Society and is the current WA State Representative Board Member. She presents at local, national and international conferences, and reviews research manuscripts for professional journals and research grant applications.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Coventry, L., Hosking, J., Chan, D., Coral, E., Lim, W., Towell-Barnard, A., Twigg, D., Rickard, C. Variables associated with successful vascular access cannulation in hemodialysis patients: A prospective cohort study. Accepted for publication 6th May 2019 BMC Nephrology. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12882-019-1373-3>
- Coventry, L., Jacob, A., Davies, H., Stoneman, L., Keogh, S., Jacob, E., Drawing blood from peripheral intravenous cannula compared with venepuncture: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Accepted for publication 2nd April 2019. Journal of Advanced Nursing. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.14078>
- Coventry, L., Bremner, A., van Schalkwyk, J., Hegney, D., Thompson, P. The effect of media campaigns, patient characteristics, and presenting symptoms on prehospital delay in myocardial infarction patients: a prospective cohort study. Accepted for publication. 2018. Heart, Lung and Circulation. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hlc.2018.05.203>
- Coventry L., Pickles S., Sin, M., Towell, A., Giles, M., Murray, K., Twigg, D. Impact of the Orthopaedic Nurse Practitioner Role on the Care of Hip Fracture Patients: Patient and Economic Outcomes. Journal of Advanced Nursing. 2017;73:2652-2663 <https://doi.org/10.1111.jan.13330>
- Coventry, L., van Schalkwyk, J., Thompson, P., Hawkins, S., Hegney, D. Myocardial infarction, patient decision delay and help seeking behaviour: a thematic analysis. Journal of Clinical Nursing. 2017;26:1993-2005. <https://doi.org/10.0000/jocn.13607>
- Coventry, L., Bremner, A., Williams, T., Celenza A. The effect of presenting symptoms and patient characteristics on prehospital delay in MI patients presenting to emergency department by ambulance: A cohort study. Heart, Lung & Circulation. 2015; 24: 943-950. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hlc.2015.02.026>

GRANTS

- Coventry, L., Walsh, N., Sin, M., Davis, S., Twigg, D., Murray, K., Jansen, S., Introducing an intervention to improve adherence to pressure injury evidence based guidelines: a cluster randomised trial. 2016. Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust Biennial Grant, \$40,000.
- Mickle, P. Coventry, L., Gibson, N., Ewens, B. The effect of an immediate pre-operative haemoglobin blood test on hip fracture patient outcomes: a randomised control trial. 2017. Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Research Advisory Grant, \$39,993.
- Coventry, L., Morelius, E. Evaluation of the Western Australian Haemodialysis Vascular Assessment Complexity instrument: content validity, reliability and predictive validity. 2019 Early Career Researcher Grant Scheme \$30,000.



Research Interests

- Prevention of hospital acquired complications including:
 - Vascular Access
 - Pressure Injury
 - Indwelling urinary catheter management
 - Falls and Delirium
 - Clinical Handover

DR OLIVIA GALLAGHER

PhD, BN(Hons)

Email: o.gallagher@ecu.edu.au

Dr Gallagher is the Director, Clinical in the School of Nursing and Midwifery. She also provides Expert Witness Consultancy for Unisearch Expert Opinion Services and is a Quality Surveyor for the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission.

Olivia qualified as a Registered Nurse in 2002, completing First Class Honours at Edith Cowan University in 2004. Since 2002 Olivia has practiced in operating theatre, surgical and critical care areas. In 2005, she joined the ECU School of Nursing and Midwifery as a sessional Clinical Supervisor and Tutor while continuing her clinical practice. Olivia was employed in the role of Clinical Nurse Consultant in aged care from 2007–2009. She moved to the University of Western Australia's Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences in 2009 to take up the position of Nursing Academic, where she remained until 2015.

Olivia completed her doctoral research at the University of Sydney in 2014 having developed and evaluated an online decision support tool for women considering breast reconstruction following mastectomy. Dr Gallagher's research interests include older adult care, nursing education, breast cancer survivorship, and patient decision-making.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Jonas-Dwyer, D., Gallagher, O., Saunders, R., Dugmore, H., Bulsara, C. & Metcalfe, H. (2017). Confronting reality: A case study of a group of student nurses undertaking a management of aggression training (MOAT) program. *Nurse Education in Practice* 27, 78–88.
- Ding, M. Metcalfe, H., Gallagher, O. & Hamdorf, J. (2016). Evaluating trauma nursing education: An integrative literature review. *Nurse Education Today* 44) 33–42.
- Gallagher, O., Saunders, R., Tambree, K., Allix, S., Monterosso, L & Naglazas, Y. (2014). Nursing student experiences of death and dying during a palliative care clinical placement: Teaching and learning implications. *Transformative, innovative and engaging. Proceedings of the 23rd Annual Teaching Learning Forum*, 23, 1-10.
- Saunders, R., How, C., Hill, O. & Hadzic, M. (2012). An organisational synergy challenging boundaries between research, theory and practice. *Australasian Journal on Ageing*, 31(2), 50–55.
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- Western Australian Nurses Memorial Charitable Trust (2010). 'Development and implementation of an evaluation framework for a breast reconstruction decision support tool for women considering breast reconstruction following mastectomy'. Hill, O. \$24,800.
- Health Workforce Australia (2010). 'Beyond the Teaching Nursing Home: Clinical Training Partnerships in Residential Aged Care'. Saunders, R., Lake, F., Hill, O., Carr, S., Bryant, A., Smith, A., Mooney, I., Hawkins, K., Fereday, J. \$2,147,207.



Research Interests

- Older adult care
- Nursing education
- Breast cancer survivorship
- Patient decision-making

DR CAROLINE VAFEAS

PhD, RN

Email: c.vafeas@ecu.edu.au

Caroline Vafeas is a senior lecturer at Edith Cowan University. She has taught under graduate and postgraduate education, in the field of gerontology and dementia for the past 12 years. Her previous clinical experience is mostly in the area of District Nursing. She migrated with her family from the UK to Western Australia in 2003 and has had a strong interest in the experiences of other UK migrant nurses since this time. Her PhD was completed in 2013 at ECU and titled "Migration Matters: The experience of Registered Nurses migrating from the United Kingdom to Western Australia.

Since completion of her PhD, Caroline's main research focus has been on the care of older adults. Current supervision includes; infection control measures in residential aged care; Ability of carers to care for those living with dementia; Career aspirations of AIN in the residential aged care setting; End of life care in the residential aged care setting; Graduate education in dementia care in the hospital setting; Homelessness and transition to aged care from an international perspective.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Vafeas, C., Hendricks, J., Wilkinson, A. & Blakely, H. (2016) Healthy ageing strategies. ANMF 23(7) p 47.
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- Vafeas, C., Graham, R., DeJong, G., Sharp, J., Nunge, I. & Maes, S. (2018). Alcohol consumption patterns of older adults: A study in a regional town in Western Australia. *Contemporary Nurse*, 5(6) 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10376178.2017.1421051>
- Vafeas C., Jacobs, E., & Jacob, A. (2018). A younger onset dementia toolkit: Innovative practice. *Dementia*; <https://doi.org/10.1177/1471301217738402>

GRANTS

- Younger Onset Dementia: An education package for paid carers in residential facilities, The Lovell Foundation, Trevor Mast Research Scholarship, 2016-2017 \$50,000. Chief Investigator
- WA Clinical Training Network Grant to develop educational resources (Unmet needs in dementia care) (2016) \$99,000. Associate Investigator
- Assessing the 'at risk' elderly in an Independent Living Community Setting, Edith Cowan University, ECU Industry Collaboration Grant – (2015) \$30,000. Associate Investigator



Research Interests

- Older Adults
- Dementia
- Residential Aged Care
- Carers
- End of Life Care
- Nurse Migration

DR DEBORAH SUNDIN

PhD, BN (Hons), RN, RM
Email: d.sundin@ecu.edu.au

Dr Sundin's research passion lies in the processes and factors affecting decisions made in the health care, particularly critical care environment and the impact/s of those decisions. She had led research in this area in the eastern states and supervised PhD students with interests in this and related areas to successful completion. Dr Sundin's methodological strength lies in qualitative approaches – she developed Critical Post-structural Interpretive Interactionism, a modification of Denzin's Interpretive Interactionism, which is now successfully in use around the world. At the same time, she is comfortable working with mixed methods and has supervised a number of successful PhD candidates using this strategy.

Dr Sundin has now supported/ supervised seven research and higher degree students to successful completion (1 masters, 6 PhD). She has marked a number of theses and supervises PhD students as an adjunct (across universities). Dr Sundin has gained a number of research and teaching grants. Results of these studies/ works have been published in international journals.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Sundin, D. Fahy, K. (2008). Critical post-structural interpretive interactionism: an update on Denzin's methodology. *Nurse researcher*, 16 (91), 17-23 10.7748/nr2008.10.16.1.7.c6750.
- Murray, M. Sundin, D. & Cope, V. (2019). Benner's model and Duchscher's theory: Providing the framework for understanding new graduate nurses' transition to practice. *Nurse Education Practice*, 34, 199-203 doi: 10.1016/j.nepr.2018.12.003.
- Murray, M. Sundin, D. & Cope, V. (2018). The nexus of nursing leadership and a culture of safer patient care. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27, 5-6 doi: 10.1111/jocn.13980.
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- Adama, E., Sundin, D., Bayes, S. (2015). Parents' Experiences of Caring for Preterm Infants after Discharge from Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: A meta-synthesis of the literature. *Journal of Neonatal Nursing*. 4-SEP-2015. DOI information: 10.1016/j.jnn.2015.07.006
- Adama, E., Sundin, D., Bayes, S. (2017). Parents' experiences of caring for preterm infants after discharge with grandmothers as their main support. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27 (17-18) doi: 10.1111/jocn.13868. Epub 2017 Aug 9.



Research Interests

- Critical care
- Clinical and ethical decision-making
- Quality and safety
- Telehealth

DR ROSEMARY SAUNDERS

PhD, MPH, PGDip, BAppSc, RN

Email: rosemary.saunders@ecu.edu.au

Rosemary Saunders is a Senior Lecturer within the School of Nursing and Midwifery, and a Research Fellow at Hollywood Private Hospital (HPH). Rosemary has held other academic positions in Western Australia and Brunei, and also worked as a Clinical Nurse Consultant in aged care. Her research areas of interest include older adults, stroke care, palliative care interprofessional practice and education. Her current research at HPH includes an eHealth program for patients undergoing a total hip replacement: A randomised controlled trial; and Non-technical skills of Rapid Response Teams: An observational study. Rosemary was recently awarded an ECU Industry Collaborative grant with HPH to investigate Quality of end-of-life care in hospital: A multi-faceted study of end-of-life care and perceptions of bereaved family and clinical staff.

Rosemary's PhD evaluated the impact of older adults living in residential care as simulated patients, and she is currently conducting other research related to stroke care including Stroke Peer Support Program at a Community Hospital: A Case Study; Supporting the needs of patients and carers following stroke; and Containment strategy for the treatment of intractable faecal incontinence). Rosemary has also completed other research related to interprofessional practice and education in aged care and ambulatory care settings, including undertaking educational research to develop, implement and evaluate an interprofessional education toolkit for staff in residential aged care to better support the care needs of people with cognitive and functional decline.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Seaman, K., Saunders, R., Dugmore, H., Tobin, C., Singer, R., Lake, F., (2018), Shifts in nursing and medical students' attitudes, beliefs and behaviours about interprofessional work: An interprofessional placement in ambulatory care. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 27(15-16), 3123-3130, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14506>.
- Saunders, R., Seaman, K., Ashford, C., Sullivan, T., McDowall, J., Whitehead, L., Ewens, B., Pedler, K., Gullick, K., (2018), An eHealth program for patients undergoing a total hip arthroplasty: Protocol for a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 20(6), Article no. e137, *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, DOI: 10.2196/resprot.9654.
- Saunders, R., Arnold, E., Seaman, K., Green, A., Gullick, K., (2018), Graduate registered nurses' reflections on implementing safety and quality improvement projects. *Reflective Practice*, 19(5), 678-689, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14623943.2018.1538958>.
- Seaman, K., Saunders, R., Williams, E., Harrup-Gregory, J., Loffler, H., Lake, F., (2017), An examination of students' perceptions of their interprofessional placements in residential aged care. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, 31(2), 147-153, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom, Taylor & Francis, DOI: 10.1080/13561820.2016.1262338.
- Saunders, R., Miller, K., Dugmore, H., Etherton-Beer, C., (2017), Demystifying aged care for medical students. *The Clinical Teacher*, 14(2), 100-103, Wiley, DOI: 10.1111/tct.12484.

GRANTS

- Evaluating nurse change-of-shift handovers at a private hospital, Edith Cowan University, ECU Industry Engagement Grant, 2019 - 2020, \$75,798.
- Sponsorship Agreement for Research Fellow, Hollywood Private Hospital, Sponsorship, 2017 - 2020, \$112,874.
- Quality of end-of-life care in hospital: A multi-faceted study of end-of-life care and perceptions of bereaved family and clinical staff., ECU Industry Collaboration Grant - 2017 Open Round, 2018 - 2019, \$149,270.



Research Interests

- Older Adult Care
- Stroke Care
- Interprofessional Practice & Education
- Simulated patients in Health Professional Education.



ADDING UNREGULATED NURSING SUPPORT WORKERS TO WARD STAFFING: EXPLORATION OF A NATURAL EXPERIMENT

Adding nursing support workers to existing nurse staffing may be one solution to reduce nursing workloads and improve outcomes. Substantial research has examined the impact of substituting registered and enrolled nurses with unregulated workers, but few studies have investigated the effects of this addition of unregulated staff on nurse, patient and system outcomes. This study explored a trial in which nursing support workers were added to wards in acute care hospitals across the public health system in one state in Australia. This provided an opportunity to evaluate this change to staffing in a natural, real-world, environment.

A sample of five wards where nursing support workers had been added was matched to a group of five wards where there were no nursing support workers. Data included a patient survey (n=141) and nurse survey (n=154). Analysis was comparative with regression models constructed for the different ward types. Nursing leadership, staffing and resources, and nurse experience were linked to outcomes on both ward types. The instability of the ward (e.g. ward or hospital restructure) was a significant predictor of reduced quality of care and increased turnover intention on wards where support workers were added.

Adding nursing support workers to ward staffing did not lead to improvements in patient care. Staffing a nursing ward is a complex activity and consideration of the complexity of the ward context is key in making appropriate staffing and skill mix choices to limit instability and avoid negative patient, staff and system outcomes. The introduction of nursing support workers must incorporate effective delegation processes and integration into the care team. Future research should explore the process of implementation and the conditions under which strategies such as the one examined here are likely to be successful.





EVALUATION OF A REMOTE SYMPTOM MONITORING SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE RECEIVING ADJUVANT CHEMOTHERAPY FOR BREAST OR COLORECTAL CANCER

The aim of this pilot study is to develop and evaluate a web based symptom management monitoring system for patients receiving chemotherapy for breast or colorectal cancer. Consenting participants will record their symptoms electronically (i.e. on a phone, computer, iPad) to allow real time symptom monitoring and management of seven chemotherapy side effects (nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation, mucositis, neuropathy, fatigue). These participants will use the web platform to complete a symptom management questionnaire and enter data on their temperature once a day (and at any time they feel unwell) for the first month of their chemotherapy regime. This information will be sent in 'real time' directly to the study server.

Having entered their symptom information, the patient immediately receives evidence based self-care on the device they are using (phone, computer, iPad) and if symptoms are outside of normal parameters an amber or

red alert is generated, depending on symptom severity. Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Medical Oncology staff will be notified via a pager/phone who can then view the patient's symptoms and contact them within an agreed timeframe to discuss their symptoms in more detail and advise if further tests or hospital admission are necessary. Participating patients are therefore guided how to handle their symptom/s and are assured that hospital staff will be in contact if an amber alert is triggered or given advice to visit their GP or an emergency department should a red alert be triggered.

The proposed study will offer an innovative symptom management system which supports cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy, to better manage their health at home through the use of remote technology.

YOUNGER ONSET DEMENTIA FREE TOOLKIT AVAILABLE TO CARERS

"Prescription for Life", an interactive educational resource was collaboratively developed by the School of Nursing and Midwifery and clinical personnel for employed carers of persons living with younger onset dementia (YOD) cared for in the home and residential setting. The resource contains video links, audios from experts in the field and offers a wellbeing approach to YOD care.

The resource was developed to increase knowledge and improve care for staff caring for those with YOD as well as to challenge dementia worker's attitudes and encourage a wellness approach in YOD care. The toolkit is available at www.lovellfoundation.com.au/younger-onset-dementia-toolkit-for-carers-and-families-free/



ECU AND THE CITY OF WANNEROO TO PROMOTE AGE-FRIENDLY STRATEGY IN COMMUNITY

The School of Nursing and Midwifery in collaboration with the City of Wanneroo and ECU Psychology and Exercise Physiology have undertaken the project "Strengthening Mind and Body Self-Management (SaMBa): A community facility based multifactorial intervention to improve health in older adults.

The program was developed as an intervention to enhance successful ageing, through the promotion of well-being for those 65 years or older, living with age-related functional disability or frailty. The benefit for this group is the promotion of successful ageing, spanning both mental and physical aspects to enhance quality of life, and for the wider Western Australian community, the potential continuation of a community facility led healthy ageing program.

THE IMPACT OF A DELIRIUM ASSESSMENT TOOL ON DELIRIUM PREVALENCE, OUTCOMES AND MANAGEMENT DURING A HOSPITAL ADMISSION

The School of Nursing and Midwifery in collaboration with Joondalup Health Campus is undertaking a study to explore the impact of a delirium assessment tool. Delirium is an acute confusional state that is a temporary condition, not a disease. Doctors use the term to describe patients who have lost part or all of their ability to focus attention. Those who have been hospitalised are at higher risk of developing delirium, with medications, illness and surgical procedures all possible factors that might cause someone to have an episode of delirium. The aim of this study is to see whether use of the delirium assessment tool increases recognition of delirium, and whether this improves patient outcomes and management of delirium during a hospital admission.

The findings from this research will help to guide future development and implementation of delirium assessment and staff training in acute care areas.

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT SURVIVORS AND THE USE OF A WEB BASED RECOVERY PROGRAM TO FACILITATE RECOVERY

The School of Nursing and Midwifery will be undertaking an evaluation of the impact of a web based intensive care recovery program on the mental well-being of intensive care unit (ICU) survivors, and to determine if it is a cost effective approach. Often those requiring admission to an ICU experience physical and psychological complications as a direct result of their critical illness or event and ICU experience. Complications, if left untreated, can affect the quality of life of survivors and impact upon health care resources. This study will evaluate a novel intervention in a group of ICU survivors. The findings from this study will inform a larger study and the wider debate about an appropriate intervention in this population.

HEALTH BELIEFS AND FOLK MODELS OF ILLNESS IN MIDDLE EASTERN COMMUNITIES: A FAMILY CENTRED APPROACH

The School of Nursing and midwifery is undertaking studies to develop a conceptual model that encompasses families' beliefs about the causes of illness and how beliefs among Middle Eastern communities are enacted in relation to treatment and self-management of acute and chronic illnesses across the lifespan.

Using a family-centred approach to health care, a national and international approach is proposed to establish a folk model for the Middle Eastern population. This project will build an initial knowledge base by this team and will lead to further nationally and internationally relevant research in this area. We aim to develop a theory about folk beliefs surrounding the causes of ill health and general health care practices among specific ethnic communities in Western Australia.

This model will enable us to identify and understand the health beliefs and care practices in relation to health and illness across parents, children and adolescents. We will specifically explore how these relate to care practices and to the treatment of acute and other chronic illness.

The findings will assist Australian Healthcare professionals in developing cultural competency, and increase their knowledge of health beliefs and practices from a diverse range of ethnicities, in addition to meeting the health needs of this growing population.

EXPLORING THE PRACTICE OF BLOOD SAMPLING FROM PERIPHERAL INTRAVENOUS CANNULAS IN ACUTE HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

The School of Nursing and Midwifery in collaboration with colleagues from Queensland University of Technology and Advance TAFE in Victoria are undertaking a study to explore the practice of blood sampling from Peripheral Intravenous Cannulas (PIVC) in acute healthcare settings.

PIVC are routinely inserted into patients in acute health services to assist with administration of medications and management of conditions. There appears to be a great degree of variance in practice regarding obtaining blood samples from intravenous cannulas between health services, states in Australia, and individual nurses.

The project will identify the current prevalence of the practice of blood sampling through PIVCs. Based on the results, further research into the safety of blood sampling through PIVCs will be undertaken to inform practice and policy internationally.



APPLYING TO ECU

Getting ready to apply for a research degree can seem quite daunting so we've laid out the following process to assist you. We recommend that you complete your application four to six weeks prior to any deadline. An incomplete application will result in delays, which means you could potentially miss deadlines, so make sure that your application is complete before submitting it.

CHECK YOUR DATES

Masters by Research courses and the Integrated PhD have a specific start date and application deadlines. However, applications for the standard PhD are open all year round. Keep in mind that ECU's Research Scholarships also have opening and closing dates. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, visit the Scholarships website: ecu.edu.au/scholarships

KNOW YOUR TOPIC

You will need to prepare a 300-word abstract and a two-page proposal on your topic. Your initial abstract and proposal will tell us about you, including how much you know about ECU, research in your area of study, how passionate you are about your subject, and how familiar you are with the prospective supervisors within the schools.

PREPARE YOUR DOCUMENTS

In addition to your abstract and proposal, you will need to submit the following:

- Academic certificate transcripts (secondary and/or tertiary studies) in both the original language and official certified English translation (if applicable)
- English proficiency test scores
- Copy of passport photo page (if applicable)
- Résumé/Curriculum vitae (if applicable)
- Work reference (if applicable)
- Marriage or name change certificate (if applicable)
- Copies of your Honours or Masters Thesis, as well as any publications you have produced

APPLY DIRECTLY TO ECU OR THROUGH AN AGENT

Visit the Application Portal: apply.ecu.edu.au to apply for your course, including uploading your documents. You can also track the progress of your application here.

Please note that ECU requires certain nationalities to apply via an authorised agent. Visit ecu.edu.au/future-students/applying/find-an-authorised-agent to find an agent near you.

RECEIVE OUR INITIAL ASSESSMENT

The initial assessment will take into account your qualifications, topic, abstract and proposal to ensure it is closely aligned with our areas of research focus, and that we have supervisors in your research area. This can take four to six weeks, depending on academic availability. Please note that during December and January this process may take longer.

We will communicate with you via email, so it is important for you to check your email regularly to ensure there are no delays with your application.

PROGRESS YOUR APPLICATION

If your application satisfies all our criteria, it will be progressed for further assessment. At this stage your qualifications will be verified and a research supervisor will be assigned to you. Processing time for the assessment of your application will vary based on academic availability.

OUTCOME OF YOUR APPLICATION

You will be advised of the outcome of your application via email. If you are successful, you will receive an offer to commence your studies at ECU.

ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

Your offer letter will contain specific instructions as to how to accept your offer via our online system.

If you have questions about your application, contact Admissions: HDR.enquiries@ecu.edu.au

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