

**NURSING RESEARCH: CHALLENGES  
AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**PRESENTED**

**BY**

**OPARA HOPE CHIZOLUM**

**AT**

**GLOBAL RESEARCH NURSES WORKSHOP**

**24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY  
TEACHING HOSPITAL, NNEWI**

# OUTLINE FOR THE PRESENTATION

- INTRODUCTION
- WHAT IS NURSING RESEARCH?
- IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH TO NURSING
- WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES?
- CHALLENGES FACED BY NURSE RESEARCHERS
- WAY FORWARD
- CONCLUSION



# INTRODUCTION

- Research is a way of thinking: examining critically the various aspects of your day-to-day work; understanding and formulating guiding principles that govern a procedure; and developing and, testing new theories that contribute to the advancement of your practice and profession (Odunze, 2019).



- It is a habit of questioning what you do, and a systematic examination of clinical observations to explain and find answers for what you perceive, with a view to instituting appropriate changes for a more effective professional service (Kumar et al, 2016)



- Today's healthcare system is complex, and patients have increasingly varied needs.
- Developing solutions for the health issues of diverse populations requires providers with many different perspectives ([National Institute of Nursing Research](#), 2016).
- Nurses provide direct care to their patients on a daily basis, so they know which approaches work well and which need adjusting.



- Nursing concerns are the heart of nursing research.
- even when nurses want to improve care through research findings, several barriers have hindered the progress.



- WHAT IS NURSING RESEARCH?
- Nursing research is research that provides a body of knowledge and evidence used to support nursing practices (the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2016) .
- Evidence-based practice requires using research outcomes to drive clinical decisions and care. Nurses must base their work on the results of research (Northeastern State University, 2021)



American Association of  
Colleges of Nursing uses  
three classifications of  
nursing research

health systems and  
outcomes research  
focuses on the quality,  
quantity and costs of  
healthcare services,  
including how to  
improve the delivery  
of care

Clinical research  
looks at care for  
individuals  
across the spans  
of their entire  
lives, and nurses  
can carry out this  
research in any  
clinical setting.

Nursing education  
research examines  
how students learn  
the nursing  
profession.





# IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH TO NURSING

- nursing research uncovers knowledge to build the foundation of clinical practice and reinforce the following:
- Prevent disease and disability.
- Manage symptoms of illness.
- Enhance end-of-life care.
- nurses use research to effect positive outcomes for their patients and for others within the healthcare system ([National Institute of Nursing Research](#), 2016)



- Research helps nurses determine effective best practices and improve patient care
- Research helps nursing respond to changes in the healthcare environment, patient populations and government regulations. As researchers make discoveries, the practice of nursing continues to change
- For development and testing nursing theories



- Peer-reviewed, published data that is accepted by the nursing profession provides guidance and establishes best practices in the field
- Professionalism needs research findings
- helps nurses advance their field, stay updated and offer better patient care.
- help shape health policy and contribute to global healthcare.



?

## WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES

- **Nurse researchers** often partner with **scientists** in other fields, such as pharmacy, nutrition, medicine and engineering, to better address complex questions and problems.
- **Nurse researchers** may begin their **research** careers in positions such as
  - **research** assistant,
  - clinical data coordinator and
  - clinical **research** monitor.



- Nurse researchers work in a number of different places,
- health care facilities
- universities
- research organizations and laboratories.
- Private companies and nonprofit organizations focused on health care issues also hire nurse researchers(*The American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2021*).



- nurse researchers with advanced degrees write books, teach, consult and speak at conferences and other events.
- Nurse researchers write competitive grant applications, report study results and prepare journal articles
- Clinical Nurse Researchers or Nurse Researchers, develop and implement studies to investigate and provide information on new medications, vaccinations, and medical procedures (*Gaines, .*



- Collaborating with industry sponsors and other investigators from multi-institutional studies
- Educating and training of new research staff
- Overseeing the running of clinical trials
- Administering questionnaires to clinical trial participants



- Writing articles and research reports in nursing or medical professional journals or other publications
- Monitoring research participants to ensure adherence to study rules
- Adhering to research regulatory standards
- Writing grant applications to secure funding for studies





- Reporting findings of research, which may include presenting findings at nursing conferences, meetings and other speaking engagements
- Adhering to ethical standards
- Maintaining detailed records of studies as per guidelines, including things such as drug dispensation



- Participating in subject recruitment efforts
- Ensuring the necessary supplies and equipment for a study are in stock and in working order
- Engaging with subjects and understanding their concerns



- Providing patients with thorough explanation of trial prior to obtaining Informed
- Consent, in collaboration with treating physician and provides patient education on an ongoing basis throughout the patient's course of trial (Gaines, 2020)
- Too much opportunities!!!!



# CHALLENGES FACED BY NURSE RESEARCHERS

- Temporary posts and limited opportunities for career progression
- Common frustrations experienced by these nurses include often working in isolation
- Difficulties have been identified around integrating into clinical teams
- Clinical nurse researcher need better support, training and professional development



- Constraints on developing countries research:
- A. Personal:
  - – Intellectual isolation-working alone
  - – Low salaries
  - – Limited promotion
  - – Few carrier paths
  - – Restricted research choice
  - – Insufficient training



## ○ B. Work-Environment:

- - Lack of access to information
- - Inadequate support of staffs??support!!!
- - Institutional instability
- - Weak facilities

## C. Macro-Environment

- - Lack of demand for research
- - Lack of scientific Culture
- - Weak public Support
- - Bureaucratic rigidity
- - Political instability



- Time and Money- spend my money on research????
- Lack of Computerization -A researcher cant find the data for the research because of lack of computerization
- Distance
  - There is insufficient interaction between the university research departments on one side and clinical areas on the other side.
- A great deal of primary data of non-confidential nature remain untouched or untreated by the researchers for want of proper contacts.




- The lack of a scientific training in the methodology of research.
- There is also the difficulty of timely availability of published data
- many libraries are not able to get copies of up-to date books and journal, donated ones from alumni sometimes are obsolete (Chandra, 2019)
- Plagiarism





# WAY FORWARD

- DO YOU THINK THAT THESE CHALLENGES CAN BE SURMOUNTED????? YES
  - Lets get interested first – be curious! Find solution to a problem in nursing practice, education and administration
  - Learn the basic steps in conducting a research
  - Form research groups in our units
  - Use all our data documented in all forms of charts and registers and transform them into findings
  - Look for grants
  - Learn to present findings in any conference- publish in hospital bulletin or gazette, NANNM, NMCN Journals
  - Nurse leaders should lobby for research allowances and sponsorship for interested nurses
- 

# CONCLUSION

- The importance of research for quality, safe, effective and efficient care of patients and their families cannot be overemphasized. Despite this obvious importance of nursing research, some nurses are yet to understand the research process, others have inertia that has hindered them from stepping out while those who wanted to were stagnated by challenges. The nurse researcher should keep pushing on and as well collaborate with other researchers till success is achieved.



The background features a large, light blue triangle pointing upwards, centered behind a white rounded rectangle with a blue border. To the left of the rectangle, there are several orange circles of varying sizes, some overlapping the blue triangle. The overall design is clean and modern.

**Thank you  
for listening**