

REFOCUSING NURSING PRACTICES THROUGH CLINICAL RESEARCH IN TIMES OF GLOBAL CRISIS

Workshop Report

NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL (NAUTH),

24th - 25th May 2021

This research skills workshop was sponsored by Global Research Nurses (GRN) and The Global Health Network (TGHN), University of Oxford University, and was attended by 143 people across the two days of the programme. In total, 70 registered interest to attend using the online booking system, and a further 90 people tried to attend on the basis of 'walk-in' participants. The venue was donated by hospital management through the Nursing Services department. Two halls were used for the two days, including the Gilbert Uzodike hall and the Catholic Women Organization (CWO) hall Okwuani.



We had participants from across the Anambra State for this 2-day workshop but participants were predominantly based at the host institution because the session was intended to mark and honour their *International Nurses Week*. Local speakers contributed to the expertise shared across this 2-day programme, and included two virtual sessions to accommodate subject matter experts from Lagos Nigeria and from South Africa, who agreed to contribute to the content of the sessions.

Day 1: Monday 24th May 2021

The programme commenced at 8:00am with confirmation of registered participants and at 9:30am, the workshop was declared open by the Chief Medical Director of NAUTH, accompanied by the Chairman Advisory Committee (CMAC) of the hospital who congratulated the Nurses on their dedicated International Nurses Week and expressed congratulations and support for the theme of the workshop. He also thanked *Global Research Nurses* and *The Global Health Network* for bringing such an enriching programme free of charge to his hospital nurses and noted that the programme came at the right time.

The Head of Nursing services NAUTH also encouraged nurses to focus while the programme is ongoing in order to learn, as only through research outcomes can nurses embrace evidence-based practice. All Unit heads of the hospital were in attendance. The programme was planned in association with the Continuing Education department of NAUTH.

Ralueke Ekezie, Nigerian coordinator for GRN started with a presentation to more formally present an **Introduction to The Global Health Network (<https://tghn.org/>) platform and Global Research Nurses (<https://globalresearchnurses.tghn.org/>) knowledge hub**. He provided a comprehensive overview of The Global Health network platform and Global research Nurses Hub and their related activities in Africa, focusing in Nigeria. Ralueke took them through the process of registration and indicated key and relevant resources available for nurses. The second presentation was by Dr Okoli Justina who presented on **Generating evidence for Clinical Nursing Practice**. She carefully walked the participants through the steps of generating evidence through research findings, as well as process for implementing research findings.

The third speaker Mrs Hope Opara (RN, BSCN, MSCN), presented on **Nursing Research Challenges and opportunities**; discussing the various opportunities nurses could utilize in the field of clinical nursing research which includes job opportunities and the direct contributions to patient care and management. This was followed by a talk on **Implementation and dissemination of nursing research findings** where she detailed various sources which could be utilized in the dissemination of research outcomes. It was strongly emphasised to all that research efforts and results where the findings are not properly disseminated, more widely shared or implemented is simply not fulfilling its purpose.

At the close of the morning session, the nurses took the opportunity to have some group meetings regarding their nurse's week programmes while the refreshment break was served to all participants.

The afternoon session opened at 12:00 noon with a presentation on the various **Tools for Data collection and analysis in Nursing research** by Dr Sibeudu, a lecturer at Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka. Dr Sibeudu took the participants through the range of data collection tools and tools for analysis available, and the importance of using and applying such tools.

Following lunch, the afternoon session featured a dedicated questions and answers session between the panel of presenters and the participating audience. The day concluded with a final presentation by CNO Umobi Chima, a Chief Nursing officer who presented an **Introduction to informed consent** followed immediately with a Question and Answer session.



Day 2: Tuesday 25th May 2021

Day 2 of the workshop commenced at 8:00am with a presentation by Feyintoluwa Anne on the potential **Career pathways for clinical research nurses**. This talk featured the various ways a nurse could practice as a Clinical Research Nurse (CRN). Her subsequent talk

Ethical considerations in emergency settings focused on ethical theories of clinical care and ethical principles which must be considered and upheld when undertaking research in the context of an emergency. This was followed by dynamic group discussion and a refreshment break for participants, where discussions continued and networking amongst attendees was encouraged.

On return, Raluke Ekezie presented on the **scope and standards of practice of clinical research nurses**. He guided participants in the various areas of practice and standards expected of a Clinical Research Nurse. His presentation was immediately followed by a virtual session delivered by Dr Elize Pietersen, speaking to **establishing a global relevant research question**. This was reflective and Dr Pietersen brought her own experiences to this session to illustrate local clinical nursing practice, relevant research questions and critical professional connections required in forming research questions for nursing practice. She referenced multiple examples globally to demonstrate the pressing need for nurse involvement in clinical research, especially across the diverse African continent. Her presentation concluded the morning session.

Immediately after lunch, the afternoon session launched with a presentation by Dr Nwankwo Amaka speaking about the **Research Nurses role in clinical Trials** followed by a presentation by ADNS Dora Ugochukwu which offered an **Introduction to Good Clinical Practice (GCP)**. The final presentation was delivered by Prof Kodilinye Izuora, an anaesthetist physician, who noted he had seen the flyer advertising this upcoming workshop and offered to share a short presentation with the Nurses.

To bring the 2-day workshop programme to a close, the Head of Nursing services NAUTH thanked all participants and acknowledged The Global Health Network and Global Research Nurses Lead Regional Coordinator for Nigeria in supporting the workshop for their nurses and nurses within the wider Anambra State and beyond. She also warmly welcomed further collaboration in the future should the opportunity arise. The Coordinator shared and invited participants to complete the post-workshop evaluation, emphasising that participants should complete the feedback survey to qualify and receive a certificate of attendance.



The workshop officially ended at 4:30pm Nigerian Time, with a prayer from the head of the Department for Continuing Education.

Raluke Ekezie
Regional Coordinator
Global Research Nurses (GRN)