

Abstract Title*

Empowering Nurses with an Online Roadmap for Evidence-Based Practice

Description of presentation for conference program*

Gain insight into how an online tool has brought uniformity to the evidence-based practice activities of an organization and has increased the understanding of the EBP process amongst nurses while also improving the quality of projects.

Abstract Text:**Purpose (What):**

Evaluate and discuss the outcomes of the interdisciplinary initiative that created an interactive Online EBP Portfolio (OEBPP) Tool that enables bedside nurses to better understand evidence-based practice (EBP) and increases willingness to participate in EBP projects within the organization.

Relevance/Significance (Why):

Variability in nurses understanding of the EBP process was observed within the organization which left team members hesitant to engage in the process and in turn resulted in the uneven quality of EBP projects. An interdisciplinary team was formed composed of bedside nurses, a librarian, nursing faculty, and IT members to create the OEBPP Tool. It was created to inspire confidence in bedside nurses, increase engagement with EBP, and bring uniformity to the EBP activities of the organization.

Strategy and Implementation (How):

The OEBPP was created with the intention of being an interactive, online resource that would provide a roadmap through the EBP process. Information is provided through a visual map that incorporates a combination of videos, handouts, references, and lists of appropriate organizational experts to foster networking at each step in the process. The tool links steps in the EBP process to the resources needed to accomplish it. There are checkpoints embedded in the tool to provide an opportunity to assess project quality, capture project data, and upload all related documentation into an online submission system. The OEBPP Tool was introduced and implemented throughout the organization and feedback from users was integrated into the tool. A special focus was placed on integrating the tool into the two major sources of EBP projects at the institution: the interns & scholars and nurse residency programs.

Evaluation/Outcomes (So what):

The OEBPP Tool was evaluated using the EBP Questionnaire for Nurses, which measures self-reported knowledge, practice, and attitudes towards EBP. Surveys were given pre/post OEBPP Tool use and responses were analyzed using a t-test. Results revealed statistically significant positive changes across multiple measures. There was also a subjective improvement in the overall quality of EBP projects.

Implications for Practice (And now):

The OEBPP Tool serves as a model tool to be integrated into EBP programs at other healthcare organizations. It assists in enhancing the knowledge base and confidence of nurses interested in EBP and increases willingness to engage meaningfully in EBP projects.