

## Implementation Of Evidence Based Nursing Practice And Associated Factors Among Nurses Working In Jimma Zone Public Hospitals, Southwest Ethiopia

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**Abstract :** Background: - In spite of all the various programs and strategies to promote the use of research finding there is still gap between theory and practice. Difference in outcomes, health inequalities, and poorly performing health service continue to present a challenge to all nurses. A number of studies from various countries have reported that nurses' experience of evidence-based practice is low. In Ethiopia there is an information gap on the extent of evidence based nursing practice and its associated factors. Objective: - the study aims to assess the implementation of evidence based nursing practice and associated factors among nurses in Jimma zone public hospitals. Method: - Institution based cross-sectional study was conducted from March 1-30/2015. A total of 333 sampled nurses for quantitative and 8 in-depth interview of key informants were involved in the study. Semi-structured questionnaire was adapted from funk's BARRIER scale and Friedman's test. Multivariable Linear regression was used to determine significance of association between dependent and independent variables. Pretest was done on 17 nurses of Bedele hospital. Ethical issue was secured. Result:-Of 333 distributed questionnaires 302 were completed, giving 90.6% response rate. Of 302 participants 245 were involved in EBP activities to different level (from seldom to often). About forty five(18.4%) of the respondents had implemented evidence based practice to low level (sometimes), one hundred three (42 %) of respondents had implemented evidence based practice to medium level and ninety seven (39.6 %) of respondents had implemented evidence based practice to high level(often). The first greatest perceived barrier was setting characteristic (mean score= $26.60 \pm 7.08$ ). Knowledge about research evidence was positively associated with implementation of evidence based nursing practice ( $\beta=0.76$ ,  $P=0.008$ ). Similarly, Place where the respondent graduated was positively associated with implementation of evidence based nursing practice ( $\beta=2.270$ ,  $P=0.047$ ). Also availability of information resources was positively associated with implementation of evidence based practice ( $\beta=0.67$ ,  $P=0.006$ ). Conclusion: -Even though larger portion of nurses in this study were involved in evidence-based practice whereas small number of participants had implemented frequently. Evidence-based nursing practice was positively associated with knowledge of research, place where respondents graduated, and the availability of information resources. Organizational factors were found to be the greatest perceived barrier. Intervention programs on awareness creation, training, resource provision, and curriculum issues to improve implementation of evidence based nursing practice by stakeholders are recommended.

**Keywords :** evidence based practice, nursing practice, research utilization, Ethiopia

**Conference Title :** ICNH 2024 : International Conference on Nursing and Healthcare

**Conference Location :** Montreal, Canada

**Conference Dates :** August 05-06, 2024