The role of research in nursing

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Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
- Current situation of nursing research in Cameroon
- Why many nurses are not researchers
- How a non-research culture can influence practice
- Why nurses need to acquire knowledge and skills in research
- How nurses can get involved in active research
Introduction

Definition of research

It is the systematic collection, analysis and interpretation of data to understand a phenomenon or solve a problem

- It can be basic or applied
- Primary or secondary
- Qualitative or quantitative
**Introduction Cont**

**Definition of nursing**

Nursing, as an integral part of the health care system, encompasses the promotion of health, prevention of illness, and care of physically ill, mentally ill, and disabled people of all ages, in all health care and other community settings (International Council of Nurses).

http://www.icn.ch/who-we-are/icn-definition-of-nursing/
Introduction Cont

Definition of nursing research
“is systematic inquiry designed to develop knowledge about issues of importance to the nursing profession, including nursing practice, education, administration, and informatics”
(Fawcett & Garity, 2009)
The state of nursing research in Cameroon

- Not much has been published to advance the nursing field.
- Search in databases revealed few published studies (PubMed/Medline (905) and CINAHL (02)).
- Do we have more of unpublished or no studies?
- Research results for synthesis are not available.
Why many nurses are not involved in research?

- Awareness of the importance of research to the nursing profession?
- Interest and passion?
- Environmental challenges (clinical setting, home management etc)?
- Competence (knowledge, skills etc)
- Lack of personal motivation?
- Gender issues?
- Etc
Lack of a research culture can influence practice negatively

- Quality of care cannot be enhanced
- Highest standard of care /best practices
- Frequent committing of errors
- Speculation in clinical judgment (decision making)
- Limited knowledge about your patients
Why nurses need research knowledge and skills

- Generate knowledge
- Evaluate and synthesize knowledge
- Inform practice
- Formulate theories
- Inform policy
- Improve quality of care
How nurses can get involved in research?

- Develop interest in research
- Acquire strong research skills (e.g., CCEBHC)
- Writing skills
- Communication skills
- Leadership and project management skills
- Networking skills
- ICT skills
Conclusion

If you are truly determined to deliver the best quality of care to patients, then knowledge and skills in research are indispensable to your profession as a nurse.
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Thank you