

# THE PLACE OF EVIDENCE IN THE CONTEXT OF TURKEY PRACTICE NURSING AND ITS CRITICIS

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## *Evaluation:*

The foundation for the work includes the authors recently published book, which includes a literature review, research on evidence based nursing in Turkey.



The literature shows that the majority of nursing practice in the 1990s was based on experience, tradition, intuition, and nontested theories.

Nowadays, nurses are expected to be professionals and give safe and efficient care.

In the world; using research findings in nursing practices dates back to 40 years. “The projects of using research in nursing” which were started by the studies of Ketefian (1975) and Kirchoff (1982) in the USA in 1970’s give their place to “Evidence based nursing projects” in the recent years.

The first journal about the Evidence-Based practices in the World, “Evidence- Based Nursing”, was published in 1998.

Burrows D.E. & Mcleish K. (1995) A model for research based practice. *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 4 (4), 243-247.

Sackett et al. (1996) Evidence-based medicine: what it is and what it isn't. *British Medical Journal* 312 (7023), 71–72.

Estabrooks et al. (2003a) Individual determinants of research utilization: a systematic review. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* 43 (5), 506-520.

Melnyk et al. (2000) Evidence-based practice: the past, the present, and recommendations for the millennium. *Pediatric Nursing* 26(1), 77-80.

The first undergraduate nursing education in Turkey was initiated in 1955 and nursing was accepted as a scientific discipline then.

From this date on, nurses started to show interest to research.

With the opening of doctoral and master programs in nursing in 1972, nurses started to perform occupational research studies and present them in national and international scientific meetings.

In Turkey, the first nursing research was done by Perihan Velioğlu from Florence Nightingale School of Nursing and academicians of Colombia University in 1960.



The name of the research is “The educational survey preliminary to establishment Florence Nightingale higher educational program for nursing-New York Columbia University Press 1960”.



Nursing research made a very slow progress in the years of 1960-1980.

It can be said that studies in those years were usually done by the academicians in nursing schools for the purpose of academic improvement and most of those studies were far away from the real problems faced in the field of practice.

In the beginning, studies could not serve the purpose of creating the information that is needed in reality and that is identified as the heart of nursing.

A gap was generated between practice (what is nursing?) and theory (what should be nursing?) .

In general, policy makers usually do not consider nursing research as a necessary priority to reform the nursing services. Thus; nurses continue to have problems with political barriers to change.

In Turkey, nowadays most of the practicing nurses does not have an undergraduate degree but hold a diploma in nursing. Most nurses receive an education that is technically oriented without any focus on research or implementation.

In our country, attempts of nursing education focus more on nurse managers and educators rather than the researcher.

- ✓ Ozsoy S. & Ardahan M. (2008) Research on knowledge sources used in nursing practices. *Nurse Education Today* 28 (5), 602-609.
- ✓ Uysal A., et al. (2010). Barriers to research utilisation among nurses in Turkey. *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 19, 3443–3452.
- ✓ Velioglu P. & Oktay S. (1999) Türkiye’de hemşirelik araştırmalarına tarihsel açıdan kısa bir bakış. *Hemşirelikte Araştırma Geliştirme (HEMAR-G) Dergisi* 1, 5-12.



In Turkey, evidence-based nursing practices was first mentioned in 2000 in an international conference by Platin with his presentation “Evidence-Based Nursing Practices are not applied in our country, why?”.

Platin (2001) indicated that nurses in our country lack the main information and skills, they cannot perform their jobs accurately, they work daily routines oriented and work-centered, and they use traditional decisions, intuitions and experiences instead of “using evidence” in such situations.

She also underlined that the nurses need information about doing research and they cannot read the studies done abroad because they do not know foreign languages at the appropriate level.

She suggested that the groups working in the clinics should be the “consumer group” that uses the results of the research studies

Kocaman (2003) stated that the qualitatively inadequate nursing research studies and the traditional practicing habits are important obstacles for using nursing research studies in practice.

In several studies conducted in our country, the nurses' status of researching, reading and using research has been analysed.

In Erdemir's (1998 ) collected studies it was indicated that most of the studies in our country are done by the academicians with the purpose of having academic achievement; thus the research questions are more about literature in nursing rather than the real area of practice.

These studies described what was done, what was not done and what was supposed to be done and made suggestions but they were insufficient in offering solutions to the nursing problems.

Erdemir F (1998) Do Postmodernity and Modernity Ideas Affect Nursing Philosophy. *Cumhuriyet Üniversitesi Hemşirelik Yüksekokulu Dergisi* 2(1):59-63.

Das Z., et al. (2001) The evaluation of research articles published in refereed journals in Turkey in 1994–1999 in terms of implementation and writing principles. *Nursing Research Journal* 1 (1), 13–22.

Durmuş A.B., et al. (2001) An analysis of the views of nurses employed at hospitals in Elazığ province on nursing research. *Nursing Forum* 4:,12-16.

Ozsoy S. & Ardahan M. (2008) Research on knowledge sources used in nursing practices. *Nurse Education Today* 28 (5), 602-609.

In study of Daş et al. (2001), which was called “Evaluation of the nursing research studies done in Turkey that were published in the refereed journals in 1994-1999”, it was found that 87.1% of the studies were done by the academicians who work in the Nursing Academies and 67.7% of them were descriptive studies.



# Research on knowledge sources used in nursing practices

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**Table 2** Mean scores for responses to knowledge source questions (range: 1–5) rank ordered

The knowledge that I use in my practice is based on...	Mean $\pm$ SD	Corrected item – Total correlation	Alpha if item deleted
The information my fellow nurses share...	3.455 $\pm$ 0.916	0.18	0.78
What has worked for me for years...	3.439 $\pm$ 1.017	0.13	0.81
The ways that I have always done it...	3.417 $\pm$ 1.056	0.40	0.76
In-service training programs...	3.413 $\pm$ 1.029	0.45	0.75
Information I learned in nursing school...	3.389 $\pm$ 1.091	0.50	0.74
Information in textbooks...	3.381 $\pm$ 1.053	0.54	0.73
Information that I learn about each patient/client as an individual...	3.321 $\pm$ 1.019	0.49	0.72
Courses specific only to my department...	3.285 $\pm$ 1.074	0.49	0.72
My personal experience of nursing patients/clients...	3.283 $\pm$ 0.985	0.41	0.74
Information I obtained by continuing in-service/conferences...	3.263 $\pm$ 0.937	0.31	0.76
Information I obtained from nursing congress and symposiums...	3.200 $\pm$ 1.053	0.31	0.71
New therapies and medications that I learned about after physicians order them for patients...	3.188 $\pm$ 1.097	0.30	0.71
Nursing departments of Medical congress and symposiums...	3.140 $\pm$ 1.108	0.41	0.70
What physicians discuss with me...	3.086 $\pm$ 1.058	0.57	0.68
Articles published in medical journals...	3.060 $\pm$ 1.086	0.54	0.68
Articles published in nursing research journals...	3.054 $\pm$ 1.089	0.35	0.71
Information I get from policy and procedure manuals...	3.030 $\pm$ 1.025	0.56	0.68
Articles published in nursing journals...	3.018 $\pm$ 1.105	0.56	0.68
Activities of nursing foundations in Specific Branches...	2.931 $\pm$ 1.087	0.41	0.73
Publications and activities of Turkish Association of Nurses...	2.909 $\pm$ 1.095	0.57	0.68
My intuitions about what seems to be "right" for the patient/client...	2.867 $\pm$ 0.990	0.52	0.69
Information I get from the media (e.g., popular magazines, television, the internet, etc.) ...	2.851 $\pm$ 1.060	0.45	0.70

The project “**Cooperation for Using Research in Nursing**” by Kocaman and his friends is the first study done with cooperation of academicians and clinic nurses in our country with the purpose of increasing the use of research by nurses and finding research based solutions to the problems occurring in practice.

“**Evidence-Based Nursing**” course is now included in the educational program of six universities in Turkey. The fact that these courses are included in nursing education shows that the importance given to evidence is gradually increasing.



In Turkey, research education usually takes part in the third year of undergraduate education in the nursing schools.

In my university, the research course prepared with the purpose of helping the students to gain Evidence-Based Practice skills is given in their curriculum with an integrated approach being Spread to the 4 years of study.

A “**Access To Knowledge In Nursing Committee**” was established in order to develop the skills of the first grade students to reach and use the available literature.

The attention being paid to research in our country is also increasing day by day. In the area of medicine, “**Evidence-Based Medicine Association**” was established in 2008 by doctors.

However; there are not enough and clear data about the place of nursing research results in clinical practice and there is not still any centre that evaluates the articles published about nursing in terms of the level of evidence.



**Bahar (2004) suggests that strategies for developing nursing researches in our country are as follows;**

- Establishing a national nursing research center attached to the ministry of health,
- Creating a database and identifying priorities in nursing research,
- Sharing responsibilities among advanced nursing schools for the integration of the research and the practice,
- Organizing the continuing education programs to reach all nurses, extending the electronically accessibility to information,
- Producing solutions to provide financial resources for supporting nursing researches

# THANK YOU

