

## Nursing Education Research Conference 2018 (NERC18)

### Re-Examination of the Psychometric Properties of the Nurses' Perception of Patient Rounding Scale

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Hourly patient rounding has re-emerged as a standard practice initiative among nurses in acute care settings to promote safe, quality care in health care delivery systems. Patient's perception of excellence in care is based on the perceived availability and visible presence of nurses. The practice of patient rounding has been associated with a decrease in call light use and falls, increased patient satisfaction and safety, and quieter nursing units. While the conduct of patient rounding in hospital settings is increasingly becoming standard practice internationally, continued controversy regarding its use in nursing exists, and importantly, nurses' perceptions of this common practice have not been consistently measured. Due to the dearth of an available measure to determine staff nurses' perceived values, beliefs, and attitudes towards the practice of rounding, the Nurses' Perception of Patient Rounding Scale (Neville, 2010) was developed.

Using the newly developed instrument, the Nurse's Perception of Patient Rounding Scale (NPPRS), the purpose of this study was to examine whether the NPPRS continued to demonstrate strong psychometric properties when retested with additional investigations in multiple acute care settings.

The NPPRS, a 42 item scale in 5 point likert format consists of three subscales and a total scale: Nurse benefits, patient benefits, and communication. Initial psychometric support for the NPPRS was established through content validity and Cronbach's alpha coefficients. After IRB approval at each institution, nurse participants completed the NPPRS with additional qualitative items geared toward identifying challenges, barriers, and facilitators towards this increasingly mandatory practice.

The findings of this study through factor analyses support the three subscales. Results of the total NPPRS and the subscales of communication, patient benefits, and nurse benefits indicated that nurses perceived rounding to be an important and valued practice, yet qualitative inquiry revealed that nurses identified challenges to practice of rounding. Variability existed among acute care settings in terms of nurses' perception of benefits, whether the practice of rounding was more beneficial to nurses themselves or to patients; however nurses perceive the practice of patient rounding as favorable and beneficial to patients and to themselves. Challenges to rounding reflected issues of documentation, nurse-patient ratios, skill mix between ancillary support and nurses, and time management. Importantly, thematic analyses revealed that a mandated rounding protocol minimized nurses' professional autonomy in determining the frequency and duration of time spent with patients. Nurse leadership, evident in the supportive presence of nurse leaders positively influenced staff nurses perceptions of patient rounding.

The implications for practice and research are as follows: Nurse leaders serve as important facilitators to successful patient rounding. Through expert communication, nurse leaders can engage staff in discussion and exploration of controversial issues related to hourly rounding to enhance the delivery of safe and quality patient care, as well as secure resources and facilitate the care delivery model.

In conclusion, the results provide substantial additional support for the reliability and validity of the NPPRS. While additional research is needed to examine the controversial issues of rounding, and to further test the NPPRS for psychometric validation and future modification of the NPPRS, the need also exists to investigate the perception of patient rounding in other care delivery systems beyond medical-surgical acute care settings.

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**Title:**

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**References:**

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**Abstract Summary:**

The Nurses' Perception of Patient Rounding Scale (NPPRS), a newly developed instrument to measure nurses' values, beliefs, and attitudes towards the practice of hourly rounding. While initial studies provide strong psychometric properties of this tool, re-examination of the NPPRS using additional studies provide further psychometric support and will be described.

**Content Outline:**

I. Introduction

A. Re-emergence of Hourly Patient Rounding as a standard nursing practice initiative

B. Hourly Rounding: A brief review of the literature

II. Body

A. Development of the Nurses' Perception of Patient Rounding Scale (NPPRS)

1. Initial development of items

## 2. Refinement of items

## 3. Role of practicing nurses in tool development

### B. Pilot Study

### C. Initial Psychometric properties

#### 1. Reliability

#### 2. Validity

### D. Factor Analysis, Three Factor Model

### E. Additional Use of the NPPRS in Multiple Investigations

### F. Findings of the Metaanalysis

## III. Conclusion

### G. Recommendations for Future Research

### H. Implications for Practice

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**Professional Experience:** Kathleen Neville, Ph.D., R.N. has held the title of Professor at Kean University School of Nursing since 1996, where her primary teaching responsibilities are research courses at the RN-BSN, MSN, and most recently Ph.D. level courses. She is the author of numerous peer-refereed research and evidence-based practice publications, chapters, and a textbook. She is a frequent reviewer for multiple journals, including the Journal of Nursing Measurement, the Journal of Nursing Management, Critical Care Nursing, as well as serves as the Associate Research Editor for Orthopaedic Nursing. Additionally, she has served as a Research Reviewer for the Eastern Nursing Research Society annual conference abstract submissions, as well as other nursing organizations. She holds a Ph.D. in Research and Theory Development in Nursing and a Master's degree in Nursing Education from New York University, and a Bachelor's in Nursing from Rutgers College of Nursing.

**Author Summary:** Dr. Kathleen Neville is a frequent presenter at local, national and international nursing conferences on the topic of nursing research. Based on an identified need of advanced practice nurses, the Nurses' Perception of Rounding Scale (Neville, 2010) was developed and initially piloted to gain knowledge regarding perceived values, benefits, and attitudes towards the practice of rounding. Psychometric support for the NPPRS was established, and further investigations continue to provide psychometric support for this new instrument.

