

## EDITORIAL

PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND  
NURSING RESEARCH

**R**esearch is a professional responsibility. We are duty-bound to contribute to the body of knowledge and strengthen the evidence base of our profession. We are accountable to society for safe and quality services, adhering to standards of care. The revised position statement of the American Association of Nursing Colleges in 2006 reveals that, *Nursing research worldwide is committed to rigorous scientific inquiry that provides a significant body of knowledge to advance nursing practice, shape health policy, and impact the health of people in all countries. The vision for nursing research is driven by the profession's mandate to society to optimize the health and well-being of populations.* This is shared by the International Council of Nurses in a similar statement in 1999 and by the Philippine Nurses Association as reflected in this journal issue's theme: Advancing People's Health Through Nursing Research.

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Why Research? Often, we are quick to answer, "to discover new knowledge or to refine/validate existing knowledge", sometimes we say, "to test or develop theories." We rarely link these reasons to advance people's health or the advancement of

quality and excellent health care, or to provide evidence for nursing practice. Nursing research provides a scientific basis for the health of the people.

Potempa & Tilden (2004) argue that for nursing to be at the forefront of knowledge generation and address societal issues and health care, nursing research must be relevant to health and illness situations, scientifically rigorous, and readily translatable into practice and health policy. This issue attempts to translate this perspective in the works of our colleagues.

Lellamo's *Workplace Wellness Program for Nurses: A Logic Model Approach* proposed a nurses' workplace wellness program focusing on physical activity facilities and nutrition education/weight management. Also, De leon's et al.'s *Pressure Ulcer Prevention in Acute Care using the Pressure Ulcer Bundle of Care* determined the effectiveness of the pressure ulcer bundle of care (PUB) in preventing pressure ulcers among patients in acute care using pre and post-test quasi-experimental design.

The health of the people is now characterized with debilitating, long-term illnesses that gradually erode patients' quality of life. As nurses, we need to understand their causes and role in disease progression is critical to improving health and finding better therapies. Florendo's *The Diabetes Camp Experience of Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes* presents themes that describe the camp experience of adolescents with type 1 diabetes, its impact and recommendations.

In advancing people's health, research on developing and testing more efficient educational processes, identifying new ways to incorporate technology to enhance learning, and discovering more effective approaches to promoting lifelong learning merits attention. Lane and Serafica's *Examining the Emerging Ideas of Connection within Nursing Practice and Education* claims that "while connection is a common term and fundamental to the role of the nurse/patient relationship, the defining attributes of connect have dynamically changed, and therefore require new understanding". They proposed strategies that would enhance the nursing educator and student connection. On the other hand, Urgel & Borabo's *The Needs and Capabilities of Older Adults Bases for Nursing Curriculum Enhancement* posits that the needs and capabilities of the older adults should be determined to provide quality care and to make sure that they enjoy a quality life. This study aimed to determine the needs and capabilities of the older adults to serve as the basis for the enhancement of the BSN program in Gerontology Nursing that will help undergraduate nurses provide quality care for the older adults.

In advancing people's health, nursing research uses multiple philosophical and theory-based approaches as well as diverse methodologies. Nurse researchers continue to hone their knowledge, skills and attitudes to finding even more effective approaches. Pagatpatan, Ramirez & Perez' article, *An experience of focus groups fieldwork among novice nurses in the Eastern Visayas Region, Philippines* provides experiential ways to enhance the quality of data to improve trustworthiness of findings. Facilitation and note taking in FG discussions as well as transcribing and translating are important skills that a nurse researcher must master. Along the improvement of researching is Mazzotta's *Methodology and Methods: Why the Confusion amongst Novice Researchers*. This article is an example of advancing the knowledge, skills and attitude of a novice in the field of research. Novice researcher, Mazzotta, shares her realizations "...to challenge my thinking

and myself if I am to embrace a fluid approach in order to appreciate diverse standpoints".

This issue also presents past and current nurse leaders and researchers who have advanced people's health in varying capacities, in their own time. Daplas' *Remembering the Lady with the Lamp* takes us to a journey in London, where she was able to visit the Florence Nightingale Museum. The paper highlights the legacy, the life and works of the woman we owe our roots to. Dr. Daplas shares her insights on Florence Nightingale as a person, as a nurse and as a leader. Reboroso, on the other hand, profiles Dr. Teresita Irigo-Barcelo, this year's Professional Regulation Commission's (PRC) Outstanding Professional Nurse, as a committed educator, researcher, advocate, a legendary leader, an exceptional achiever.

People's health and nursing research are intertwined. Let us continue to make great strides toward a better future.

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