

**Knowledge and Evidence-Based Practice Readiness of Working  
Registered Nurses in Rural West Texas**  
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- **Problem:** The assessment of knowledge and readiness is a key step in the process of establishing a successful program for practicing evidence-based practice (EBP). It is critical that appropriate survey tools be used in order to collect valid information. However, little is known about what type of survey tools are appropriate for assessing EBP in rural health care agencies.
- **Strategy:** I searched CINAHL, Medline, and Cochrane Systematic Reviews to identify research aimed at the assessment and education of EBP in rural health agencies and reviewed the abstracts from STTI conference on EBP in July 2006.
- **Evidence:** There is a dearth of research related to the assessment and successful implementation of EBP in rural health care facilities. I identified two reliable and valid surveys used to assess EBP skills and knowledge in Michigan hospitals. However neither included EBP competencies as identified by the NLN.
- **Evaluation:** I contacted the researcher who presented “Ascertaining Levels of Readiness for Evidence-Based Practice” at STTI and received permission to replicate her research which included the two valid and reliable instruments noted previously. In addition, items related to basic EBP competencies were added.
- **Results:** There is a dearth of research related to the assessment and successful implementation of EBP in rural health care facilities.
- **Recommendations:** This poster will describe the knowledge and readiness of rural nurses working in either an acute care hospital or long term care facility in West Texas. Conclusions regarding how the results of the survey will be used to implement EBP in these facilities will be discussed.

## References

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