

Pop Into Nursing Research
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PROBLEM: At our Midwestern Comprehensive Cancer Center, our nurses were very comfortable participating with medical research but few had knowledge of or had participated in the nursing research process. As we incorporate the concepts of evidence-based nursing into our practice under our shared governance model, the newly evolved Nursing Research Council's most pressing goal was to educate and engage the staff in nursing research.

EVIDENCE: This proposal is based on the concept of adult learning in particular experimental learning. The concept of experimental learning described by David Kolb (1984), proposed that adults learn more effectively and process at much deeper levels when more directly involved rather than passively receiving knowledge transmitted by teachers.

STRATEGY: The aim of our "Pop Into Nursing Research" study is to introduce nursing staff to the nursing research process in a fun and non-threatening manner. After obtaining informed consent, a convenience sample of 500 staff that met inclusion criteria was provided with two bags of popcorn to taste. Following the tasting, the participants filled out a Popcorn Assessment Tool providing evaluation of each popcorn, the value of this experiment on their knowledge of the nursing research process.

PRACTICE CHANGE: Educating and engaging nurses in the nursing research process is one way to raise awareness and create enthusiasm for them to pursue this further in their clinical setting.

EVALUATION: The data will be evaluated using SPS 11.0. Pearson's correlations will be conducted to identify correlations between the continuous variables of subjects' age, years of working at the James, and ratings of the popcorn.

RESULTS: Staff participation in this project was overwhelmingly positive. Research is an important and vital component of improving the quality of patient care. Our post study revealed that approximately 74% responded somewhat or yes, a lot to the question, "*Did the "Pop into Nursing Research" study make the idea of nursing research more enjoyable for you?*"

RECOMMENDATIONS: We learned to definitely incorporate our nurse researchers and our Clinical Research Scientist when completing our IRB application. We also learned to share responsibilities when completing this process. When completing our budget for the experiment we did not incorporate a budget for the "dissemination" of our nursing research project to our nursing community, that is, we didn't set aside money for making of the poster, or having the resources to send nurses to conferences to share our project with other nurses.

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