The early life experiences are considered a strong indicator among the social determinants of health. Global agencies have invested substantial resources and strategies to advocate for early child development. These resources and strategies are deemed instrumental in addressing vulnerabilities and enhancing human capabilities. Nussbaum (2011) linked human capabilities to theories of justice and inequity. She also argued for the quality of life for all people and outlined the importance of creating opportunities that support diverse human capabilities. Nurses play a pivotal role in the enhancement of early child development in practice and research. Nurses attend to their social responsibilities and have the ability to address global challenges and priorities. However, understanding nurses’ roles in the context of early child development from a theoretical and empirical perspective are still limited.

**Purpose:** Using an integrative review guided by Nussbaum’s framework of capabilities, we examine the role of nurses, as seen by global leaders in relation to early child development. Nurses have the collective obligation to ensure children receive care in meaningful ways. The integrative literature review will address the following questions: (1) What are the considerations of global leaders regarding nurses’ roles in early child development? and (2) What are the contributions and barriers of global leaders in supporting and enhancing nurses’ roles in early child development?

**Methods:**
In this integrative literature review we will be searching the following databases: CINAHL, MEDLINE, and PubMed. All primary research studies, written in English since 2007, a time when the World Health Organization started to focus on early child development, will be included in the review.

**Results:**
Work in progress

**Conclusion:**
While nurses play a significant role in the well-being of communities, their contributions have not been systematically supported and inquired into in the global context. We will put forward recommendations that help strengthen the ways global leaders can support early child development while placing nurses in the center of their efforts.

**Title:**
Nurses' Role in Early Child Development: Exploring the Views of Global Leaders

**Keywords:**
early child development, global leaders and nurses' role

**References:**


Abstract Summary:
In this integrative literature review we explore global leaders' views on the role of nurses in supporting and enhancing early child development (ECD). We present recommendations that highlight the ways global leaders can support early child development, as well as nurses' roles in enhancement of early child development.

Content Outline:
Nurses' Role in Early Child Development: Exploring the Views of Global Leaders

Content Outline
The role of early life experiences in life-long human development is distinct. Early child development (ECD) viewed as a long-term investment for the betterment of human beings and their communities (Lake, 2011). Early years of human life is a critical and sensitive period.
especially from conception to age three years is the time during which adverse exposures exert the greatest harm, and effective interventions the greatest benefit (Richter, et al. 2016). As per Zimanyi (2007), 80% of human brain capacity develops in the first three years of life. It is a critical period where more attention required for education and support for families with pregnant mothers and young children. However, despite of knowing the benefits of investing in ECD, it is still a neglected issue and required to deal with challenges and avail opportunities to enhance ECD as a global priority (Shawar & Shiffman, 2017). Muijs, Aubrey, Harris, and Briggs (2004) indicated that the theoretically based studies in ECD are not empirically tested and it is now outstanding for long. Pérez-Escamilla, Rizzoli-Córdoba, Alonso-Cuevas, and Reyes-Morales (2017) emphasize that to implement the ECD successfully in any society not just required programs but also need to promote the development of leaders. Nurses have a pivotal role to play in the enhancement of ECD in various practice settings as well as in research. Vastani, Karmalani, and Petrucka (2016) found the significant role of nurses in connecting the community, education, health, and social development; with enhanced understanding about health promotion; and dynamic roles of nurses in capacity building ranging from the grassroots level to the consultancy level. However, in many parts of the world nurses’ roles are quite restricted to providing limited curative and preventive within the health facilities. Moreover, the literature shows in context ECD, community nursing practice, nursing leadership, and nursing scholars’ attention focuses mainly on maternal and child well-being from the perspectives of social and health problems; coping with and adjusting to acute and chronic conditions among young children along with their families and caregivers (Chartier et al. 2015; Cicutto, To, T., & Murphy, 2013; Cohen & Reutter, 2007; Christain, 2012; Glasser, Hadad, Bina, Boyko, & Magnezi, 2016; Hanafin, 2013; Johnson-Shelton, Moreno-Black, Evers, & Zwink, 2015; Kayama et al., 2014; Kirk, et al., 2013; Law, McCann, & O'May, 2011; Mahoney, 2010; Walker, Murphy, & Nichols, 2015). On the contrary, the nurses’ role in supporting ECD is not explicitly clear. Very few research studies focus on improving current nursing practices towards ECD, decrease health disparities, and improve the welfare of children and their families. Therefore, the purpose of this integrative literature review is to view global leaders’ perspective about the role of nurses in the field of ECD by focusing on the following questions:

1) What is the global leaders ‘understanding of the nurses’ roles in ECD? and
2) What are the contributions of global leaders in supporting and enhancing nurses’ roles in ECD?

The period of ECD is also considered a reliable indicator among determinants of health and is instrumental in eradicating poverty, enhancing human capabilities, and reducing the burden of diseases (Irwin, Siddiqi, & Hertzman, 2007). To search the perspectives of global leaders about the role of nurses in the field of ECD the Nussbaum’s approach (2011) of human capabilities is adopted. She has linked human capabilities to theories of justice and inequity. She also argued for the quality of life for every human being and expounded the importance of creating opportunities that support diverse human capabilities.

To proceed for this integrative literature review following database were considered to searched: CINAHL, MEDLINE, and PubMed by using the keywords “Early Child development”, “Early childhood development” “Global leaders” and “Nurses’ role”. According to the protocol of this research all the primary research studies, written in English since 2007, a time when the World Health Organization began to focus on ECD will be included in this review. RefWorks will be
used to organize the selected articles and google spreadsheet will be utilized to extract and analyze the data.

While nurses play a significant role in the well-being of communities, their contributions have not been systematically supported and inquired into in the global context. With the help of the findings of this integrative literature review, we will put forward recommendations that help strengthen the ways global leaders can support early child development while placing nurses in the center of their efforts.

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d development. YC Young Children, 62(6), 47.

First Primary Presenting Author

Primary Presenting Author
Muneerah Amin Vastani, MScN, BScN, RN, RM
University of Alberta
Faculty of Nursing
PhD. Nursing student
Edmonton AB
Canada

Author Summary: In the field of the nursing profession, I have 20 years of working experience in teaching, research, and community-based health projects. I am currently studying in the second year of the Ph.D. program in nursing at the University of Alberta. I am interested in exploring the role of global leadership, particularly global nursing leadership in the context of ECD and sustainable development goals.

Second Author
Vera Caine, PhD
University of Alberta
Faculty of Nursing
Professor
Edmonton AB
Canada

Author Summary: Dr. Vera Caine is a Professor and CIHR New Investigator at the
Faculty of Nursing at the University of Alberta. Vera’s interest is in narrative inquiry research. She focuses on issues of health equity and social justice.