

## **Nursing Education Research Conference 2020**

### **The Impact of a Focused and Intentional APN Clinical Experience on Role Transition**

**Janet A. Urbanowicz, PhD**

*Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies, Monmouth University,  
West Long Branch, NJ, USA*

Danielle Hilliard, MSN

*Center for Professional Development Innovation and Research, Monmouth Medical  
Center, Long Branch, NJ, USA*

Rose Knapp, DNP, RN, APN-BC

*Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ, USA*

**Background:** As more Advanced Practice nurses (APN) graduate there is an apparent growing need to ensure a purposeful transition to independent and autonomous practice. APN students and new graduates resoundingly express their lack of confidence in beginning their role transition toward independent practice. While the literature is rife with information related to the benefits of BSN residency programs, there is little published on residency/fellowship for the new APN practitioner. One medical center identified a 62% turnover rate for newly hired APNs attempting to transition in to their initial practice role. This statistic has been consistent for the last five years.

**Purpose:** This study is a collaborative effort between the local University and the Medical Center. It will explore whether APN students, who are also employees of the medical center, would benefit in their transition to practice, when specifically placed with seasoned APN preceptors who are provided with clinical and professional role transition objectives.

The aim of this study is to determine if there is a greater difference in self-reported transition toward practice and professional identity development for the experimental group as compared to the control group. The information gathered is expected to provide a curriculum baseline for targeted clinical objectives, as well as preceptor training, to meet these objectives in alignment with the expectations for graduation and subsequent post-graduation transition into practice.

**Methods:** This pilot exploration uses Miller's Pyramid to provide the quantitative framework for the professional identity transition measurement tool (from knowing to shows how). Pat Benner's novice to expert theory provides the qualitative theoretical framework for transition to practice. This study will compare responses from all participants through a series of three self-report surveys used to capture changes between, among, and within a convenience sample of control and experimental groups using a quasi-experimental, mixed methods study design to understand the different groups of APN students in their final semester of required clinical immersion. Anova, T-test, and central tendency statistics will be used for analysis of the quantitative data. Themes to describe the lived experience of each participant will be used to synthesize the self-reported examples that relate to the Likert scale response for each question. The research question is: How will a focused and intentional clinical experience impact APN student self-reported professional identity and transition toward practice as compared to a clinical traditional experience?

**Results:** pending

**Conclusion:** pending completion

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**Title:**

The Impact of a Focused and Intentional APN Clinical Experience on Role Transition

**Keywords:**

Advanced practice nurse, Professional role identity and Role transition

**Abstract Summary:**

APN students and graduates resoundingly express their lack of confidence in beginning their role transition. One medical center identified a 62% turnover rate for newly hired APNs transitioning into their initial practice role. This study is a collaborative effort between the local University and the Medical Center.

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First Primary Presenting Author

**Primary Presenting Author**

Janet A. Urbanowicz, PhD  
Monmouth University  
Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies  
Assistant Professor  
West Long Branch NJ  
USA

**Author Summary:** I have more than 15 years of public speaking experience in academic, professional, and community based environments. I have spoken on topics related to research, performance improvement, self-awareness/improvement, and business.

Second Author

Danielle Hilliard, MSN  
Monmouth Medical Center  
Center for Professional Development Innovation and Research  
Administrative Director  
Long Branch NJ  
USA

**Author Summary:** As the Administrative Director, Center for Professional Development Innovation and Research, I have had numerous opportunities for local and regional public speaking both professionally and in the community.

Third Secondary Presenting Author

***Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author***

Rose Knapp, DNP, RN, APN-BC  
Monmouth University  
Department Chair/Associate Professor/MSN Program Director  
West Long Branch NJ  
USA

**Author Summary:** I have been a nursing educator for the past 29 years teaching at the Associates degree to Doctoral level. I serve as the Chair of the Department of Nursing at Monmouth University and teach and coordinator the Masters and APN program at Monmouth. I have been a practicing nurse practitioner and clinical preceptor in both the Emergency Department, Urgent care and Primary care since 2000. I have presented and published extensively on nursing practice.