Spread the Word! Five Ways to Make a Difference in Nursing

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Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to provide participants with a first-hand look at how an idea could become a published work.

Upon completion of this presentation, the learner will be able to:

• Identify at least two ways to disseminate nursing knowledge
• Employ at least two processes to impact the nursing profession through publication

Background and significance

Nurses do great work; however, their efforts tend to go unnoticed as they do not initially think of ways to disseminate their work. Process and quality improvement projects can be very demanding and labor intensive and often yield positive results. These projects and their end results deserve to be shared and disseminated through the nursing community. Nurses are often resistant to submitting for authorship because of editorial requirement, fear, time constraints or lack of knowledge related to ways to disseminate their work. Much like clinical documentation, if it isn't documented it didn't happen. Nurses must equip themselves with the knowledge of how to disseminate their work.

Method/procedures

A review of the literature was performed via CINAHL, MEDLINE and the Virginia Henderson Global Nursing e-Repository related to publication development, manuscripts, online learning, abstract submission, working with an editor and open access e-repositories.

Major outcomes

Nursing as a professional community has barriers in dissemination. Nursing must recognize the value of their practice and work to disseminate the knowledge. Nursing thinks of publication and dissemination in terms of books and journals. Other nursing platforms exist for nurses to disseminate their work, however, their knowledge of those platforms or their accessibility are limited. Knowledge of authoring an online learning course, submission to an e-repository and submitting and abstract were much more limited. Many nurses did not feel they had done something worth sharing, had the time to submit or had the knowledge of how to prepare a submission.

Implications

Nurses should familiarize themselves with avenues of disseminating their work and information. The nursing community must collaborate and share their bodies of knowledge to advance patient care and address the obstacles in nursing practice and science.
Conclusions

Without dissemination of nursing research and best practices we are failing to advance the profession of nursing and nursing science. Nurses must realize their intrinsic value. Nurses works can be disseminated through journals, books, e-repositories, online courses, or abstracts for an event.
References


