

Research Priorities for Specialized Nursing Practice in the United Arab Emirates

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For which topic were research priorities identified?

specialized nursing practice

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

Asia - United Arab Emirates

Why was it conducted at all?

Globally, nurses are undertaking expanded and more specialized roles in healthcare planning and service delivery in response to changing patterns and levels of health service demand. This means the nursing profession is increasingly considered as leaders in health service policy, research and practice. The United Arab Emirates has strengthened nursing governance and practice by establishing a Nursing and Midwifery Council and increasing the activity of nursing specialization, service leadership and research.

What was the objective?

to identify clinically relevant research priorities, to facilitate nursing contributions to evidence-based care and to strengthen health services in the country

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 58 research topics

How long did the research prioritization take?

No information provided.

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

Delphi

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: Delphi round 1: survey asking participants to identify the five most important research priorities for their specialist area. Step 2: data processing: data cleaning. Step 3: Delphi round 2: participants were asked to rate the importance of each priority

Which stakeholders took part?

Nurses who have worked in a specialist clinical area (intensive care units, labour and maternity units, operating theaters, emergency departments, paediatrics units and long-term care facilities) for more than 1 year. 783 nurses participated in Delphi round 1, and 1116 nurses participated in Delphi round 2.

How were stakeholders recruited?

All nurses who had worked in a specialist clinical area [i.e. intensive care units (ICUs), labour and maternity units, operating theatres (OTs), emergency departments (EDs), paediatrics units and long-term care facilities] in the UAE for more than 1 year were invited to participate. Nurses with less than 1 year of experience were excluded as they might not have had sufficient exposure to the healthcare system to recommend relevant research priorities. Hospitals that selected electronic surveys provided a list of email addresses for their nursing staff. Hospitals that selected the paper-based format provided information about their departments and number of staff in each department. These hospitals received hard copies.

Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?

Stakeholders were mere participants of the research prioritization process; they were not actively involved in the process.