Queen’s Nursing and Health Research
2013-2014 Research Report

Historical perspective and background

In 2003, Drs. Jennifer Medves, Margaret Harrison, and Joan Tranmer worked together to officially create a research group, *Practice and Research in Nursing (PRN)*, with a focus on health services research. The overall mission of the PRN group was to produce and use evidence to plan, implement and evaluate nursing practice change to promote improved outcomes (individual, provider, and system), as well as to promote effectiveness and efficiency in nursing to benefit the health of Canadians. The strategic activities of the PRN group recognized and acknowledged the plans and activities of our partner institutions in the Southeastern Ontario Academic Health Sciences Centre (SEOHSC) and the research plans and activities of the Faculty of Health Sciences. Our key goal was to build upon the strengths and linkages at this academic Health Sciences Centre (HSC), to create a focus of nursing research excellence of relevance to the nursing discipline and practice.

We identified key strategic priorities, including:

1. Establishing and maintaining an organizational structure to support the research, knowledge translation and training activities of the PRN group.
2. Leading and conducting programs of innovative research to address health service issues of relevance to the discipline and practice of Nursing.
3. Leading and conducting research and scholarly activities that contribute to the science of knowledge translation.
4. Developing, creating and supporting educational and training opportunities for undergraduate and graduate nursing students, and practicing nurses.
5. Communicating and marketing PRN activities locally, nationally and internationally.

An advisory committee consisting of researchers and decision makers, locally and nationally from the Health Science and Nursing communities provided advice on strategic direction to the PRN group through review of an annual report and a yearly meeting. In 2007, PRN was recognized as an “Established Research Group” within the Faculty of Health Sciences. Between 2007 and 2013 PRN thrived under the
directorship of Dr. J. Medves (2003 – 2009) and Dr. M. Harrison (2010-2013). Currently, Dr. J. Tranmer is the Director of the PRN group.

We are now in the process of reviewing our current structure, activities and priorities to i) better position the capacity of new faculty to advance their respective research programs, ii) to ensure the SON research agenda complements FHS research priorities (where possible) and iii) to enhance our ability to obtain external funding through traditional and non-traditional channels.

Membership

The membership, historically, consisted of nurse scientists with career-supported and active research programs, nursing faculty whose research and scholarship interests were congruent with the PRN mission and research focus, as well as clinical or practice based members whose research and scholarship interests were congruent with the PRN research mission and focus. Graduate students were, and are actively involved in all activities. We do not anticipate that this membership will change as we wish to encourage a wide range of participation in research activities.

Operational Funding

There is no stable infrastructure funding for activities within PRN and the newly proposed Queen’s Nursing and Health Research unit. All activities are supported by monies from grants and/or contracts led by investigators. One of the initial key supports was funding from the MOHLTC, which allowed PRN to develop a strong research program within the knowledge translation focus, and the development of the Queen’s Joanna Briggs Collaboration (QJBC). QJBC is a component of PRN (currently under the leadership of C. Godfrey). Infrastructure funding is an ongoing concern for investigators.

Research activities

In 2009, we recognized the synergies of the group and developed a thematic research framework that had four elements: Understanding evidence, Gaps in Knowledge, Uptake of Evidence, and Scholarship of Integration. All components are interrelated. Investigators’ research activities were mapped onto this framework. This framework continued to evolve with the emergence of 3 themes within the context of the cycle of clinical practice – health services. In the past year, faculty have engaged in an active discussion in regard to research foci of the PRN group.
Our proposed framework builds upon the research base within the SON and further advances the original PRN foci. Broadly, the proposed Queen’s Nursing and Health Research unit (QNHR) is a team of nurse investigators who collectively, and in collaboration with practice and academic partners, lead and facilitate comprehensive research programs embedded within a cycle of practice – knowledge creation and/or synthesis - translation – evaluation. We have identified 3 clusters of research 1) populations with complex health conditions 2) practice environments and 3) health care quality. Within each cluster there are specific foci of research that involve the investigators within the group.

**Queen’s Nursing and Health Research**

**At a glance:**
Patient focus: Populations with complex conditions

Research focus: Development of knowledge and interventions focused on the optimization of function and well-being for persons with complex conditions, with a particular focus on 1) older populations, 2) persons with mental health and/or addiction issues, and 3) persons with complex and/or multiple chronic conditions.

Current research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Transition to primary care follow-up: A mixed methods study exploring the perspective of early discharge in breast cancer survivors.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigators</td>
<td>Luctkar-Flude, M., Langley, H.</td>
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<td>Funding source</td>
<td>Freda Paltiel Award, Queen’s University, School of Nursing $2,000 December 2014 – March 2016</td>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Using ICES and CIHI Databases to Determine the Prevalence of Clinical Problems: A New Faculty Research Program.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Investigators</td>
<td>Almost, J., Sears, K., Woo, K., Wilson, R., &amp; VanDenKerkhof, E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding source</td>
<td>School of Nursing Research Development Grant, Queen’s University. $2500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Investigators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow-up with early-discharge breast cancer survivors</td>
<td>Luctkar-Flude, M.</td>
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<td>The effect of neurofeedback on long-term symptoms and quality of life of post-treatment cancer survivors</td>
<td>Luctkar-Flude, M., Groll, D., Touw, M.</td>
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<td>Title</td>
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<td>Defining and optimizing nursing contribution to chronic disease care within the primary care setting</td>
<td>Tranmer, J., Edge, D., VanDenKerkhof, EG.</td>
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<td>Building local consensus on clinically important outcomes when caring for individuals with chronic pain.</td>
<td>Wilson, R., VanDenKerkhof, E., Gilron, I. Sieb, R., Sawhney, M.</td>
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<td>Pain following unilateral total knee arthroplasty: An RCT examining the effect of adductor-canal peripheral nerve block with periarticular infiltration vs adductor-canal nerve block only vs periarticular infiltration only.</td>
<td>Sawhney, M., Bowry, R., Kashin, B., Ip, G., Joo, D., Proudman, J., Bent, Mehdian, H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintaining health, function and autonomy in aging community-dwelling Canadians living with chronic conditions</td>
<td>VanDenKerkhof EG, Harrison MB, Hopman W</td>
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<td>International chronic postsurgical pain collaboration</td>
<td>VanDenKerkhof EG, Bruce J (UK), Peters M (Netherlands)</td>
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<td>The incidence of postoperative hyperglycemia among non-diabetic elective surgical patients</td>
<td>Van Vlymen J; Co-I: Jaeger M, Yang M, Kane A, Houlden R, VanDenKerkhof EG</td>
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<td>Title</td>
<td>Investigators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving health and work-related outcomes in women with chronic</td>
<td>Wilson R Co-I: VanDenKerkhof EG, Good MA, in collaboration with Hotel Dieu Chronic Pain Program</td>
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<td>pain.</td>
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<td>Improving symptom management after total joint arthroplasty: A PAR</td>
<td>Wilson RA, McKay M, Lambert S, Koen R, Wilson V, VanDenKerkhof EG.</td>
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<td>approach.</td>
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<td>postoperative pain outcomes: A randomized controlled trial</td>
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<td>the continuum of care in Ontario</td>
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<td>Costs for the management of pressure ulcers in long-term care settings</td>
<td>Woo, K. and VanDenKerkhof EG</td>
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<td>An Evaluation of Dermatology and Wound Care Learning Module for</td>
<td>Woo, K.</td>
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<td>Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioners</td>
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Provider focus: Practice environments

Research focus: Development of knowledge and interventions designed to optimize the practice environments for health care professionals with a particular focus on 1) effective models of inter-professional care, 2) leadership, 3) communication strategies and systems, and 4) workplace structure, culture and health.
### Current research

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>Funding Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Role of Formal Leadership in Long-Term Care Settings: A Scoping Review.</td>
<td>Almost, J. &amp; Godfrey, C.</td>
<td>School of Nursing, Queen’s University, Research Development Fund. $4,909.21 2014-2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting Quality Workplace Relationships Among Nurses.</td>
<td>Almost, J.</td>
<td>Research Initiation Grant, Queens University. $30,000 2012-2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The scope of practice for nurses working in correctional facilities in Ontario: A pilot study of an educational intervention to optimize practice.</td>
<td>Almost, J., Doran, D., Gifford, W., (Co-PIs), Ogilvie, L., Miller, C., Rose, D., &amp; Squires, M.</td>
<td>Nursing Research Fund, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. $200,000 2011-2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moral distress in long-term care: The development of an instrument</td>
<td>Almost, J., Sears, K., Godfrey, C., Woo, K. and Wilson, R.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Funding source  Queen’s School of Nursing: Dorothy Hall Research Initiative: $10,000 2013-2015
Title  Advancing a pan-Canadian primary care nursing framework
Funding source  Canadian Nurses Association: $27,000 Aug 2013 – March 2014
Title  Shift work and early indicators of vascular dysfunction in female hospital employees: A pilot study
Investigators  Tranmer, J., and Pyke, K.
Funding source  Queen’s University Garfield Kelly Fund: $9,000 July 2014-June 2015
Title  Shiftwork and cardiovascular risk in women
Funding source  CIHR Operating Grant: $357,048 March 2011 - 2014
Title  Occupational and other factors as determinants of melatonin levels among rotating shift nurses
Investigators  Aronson, K., Richardson, H., Graham, C., Tranmer, J.
Funding source  Ontario WSIB: $447,769 June 2007 – June 2013
System focus: Health care quality

Research program focus: Development of knowledge, as well as system and educational interventions, designed to improve the quality of health care, with particular foci on 1) Advancing safety, 2) Risk assessment and reduction, 3) Educational and health technological innovations and 4) Health system service and delivery.

Current research

Title
Assessment of patients receiving complex pain management interventions: An educational module of neuraxial analgesia using standardized patients for learners in the health professions.

Investigators
Luctkar-Flude, M., Wilson, R., Sears, K., Pulling, C., Hopkins-Rosseel, D., Jaeger, M.

Funding source
SIM-one Simulation Research and Innovation Grant: $9,980 April 2014 – March 2015
**Title**
Enhancing registered nurse job readiness and patient safety outcomes through clinical simulation.

**Investigators**
Tregunno, D., Luctkar-Flude, M., Sears, K., Medves, J.

**Funding source**
Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, Productivity and Innovation Fund: $5,794,909
November 2013 - March 2014

**Title**
Longitudinal evaluation of an unresponsive patient simulation module for undergraduate nursing students.

**Investigators**
Luctkar-Flude, M.

**Funding source**
Sigma Theta Tau International Research Grant $5,000
November 2012 – October 2013

**Title**
Evaluation of an interprofessional epidural analgesia workshop for health professional students.

**Investigators**
Pulling, C., Luctkar-Flude, M., Wilson, R., Sears, K., Hopkins-Rosseel, Jaeger, M., & Sawhney, M.

**Funding source**
Queen’s University and Queen’s University Faculty Association Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development (Adjuncts) $5,000
November 2014 – August 2015

**Title**
Evaluating an intermediate-level interprofessional infection control education module for health sciences students.

**Investigators**
Luctkar-Flude, M., Hopkins-Rosseel, D., Jones-Hiscock, C., Pulling, C., Gauthier, J., Pinchin, S., Knapp, A.

**Funding source**
Queen’s University and Queen’s University Faculty Association Fund for Scholarly Research and Creative Work and Professional Development (Adjuncts) $5,000
November 2012 – August 2013

**Title**
Patient safety incident management: Components and tools across the incident management continuum

** Investigators**

**Funding source**
Canadian Patient Safety Institute, $16,071
January – April 2014
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Investigators</th>
<th>Funding source</th>
<th>Year of funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination of prescribing to children and adolescents with disabilities or on social assistance and an assessment of adverse outcomes of these prescriptions</td>
<td>Sears, K., Levesque, L., VanDenKerkhof, E., Edge, D., and Tranmer, J.</td>
<td>Senate Advisory Research Committee, $10,000</td>
<td>Jan 2013 – Jan 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Title Ensuring the next generation of physicians understand patient safety: An examination of the effectiveness of an interprofessional applied education program
Investigators Greenway, M., Law, M. and Tregunno, D.
Funding source Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) Grant Program: $43,056
2013-2015

Title Simulation Team Training and Critical Event Checklist use for optimizing the management of critical perioperative events in an ambulatory surgical facility
Investigators Morgan, P., Tregunno, D., Edges, R., Carnahan, H., Bell, S., and Kurrek, M.
Funding source Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) Grant Program: $49,806
2012-2014

Title Nurse and organizational readiness to deliver best elder care: the key to Ontario’s ability to design
Investigators Fox, M., Sidani, S., Tregunno, D. and Ryan, D.
Funding source Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Nursing Research Fund: $200,000
2011 – 2014

Title Exploring conceptual and theoretical frameworks for Nurse Practitioner Education: A Scoping Review
Investigators Wilson RA, Godfrey C, Ross-White A, Sears K, Medves JM
Funding source COUPN: $10,000
2013 – 2014

Peer-reviewed publications

Patient focus: Populations with complex conditions

- Han H, Corbin R, Godfrey C, Leung L, Chen J, Lee MS, Zhang T, Feng L. The safety and effectiveness of bitter melon (momordica charantia) as an alternative to traditional hypoglycemic agents for the control of fasting blood sugar in patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus: a systematic review protocol. JBI Database of Systematic Reviews & Implementation Reports 2013;11(12) 17 – 32
- Harrison MB, VanDenKerkhof EG, Hopman WM, Carley ME. The role of preference on outcomes of people receiving evidence-informed community


Provider focus: Practice environments

- Harrison, M. B., Graham, I. D., Godfrey, C. M., Medves, J. M., Tranmer, J. E., Thomas, L., & Oakley, P. (In review) Guideline dissemination and implementation strategies for nursing and professions allied to medicine. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*
- Lukewich, J., Corbin, R., VanDenKerkhof, E., Edge, D., Williamson, T., & Tranmer,


- Rittenmeyer L, Huffman D, Godfrey C. The experience of patients, families and/or significant others of waiting when engaging with the healthcare system: a qualitative systematic review. *JBI Database of Systematic Reviews & Implementation Reports* 2014;12(8) 193 – 258


**System focus: Health care quality**


