



## WADEM International Nursing Section *Research Repository 2011*

Entries in the research repository are organized alphabetically by title of research project.

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**Title:** *Assessing the health and safety risk of public events. Phase 1 – Evaluation of the Event Safety Guide 1999 for medical resource allocation*

**Description:**

This project is an evaluation review of a current event workload planning tool for medical resource allocation, *The safety event guide (1999)*. The project uses existing data to determine the predictive accuracy of this tool and determine its viability as a component of a risk measurement system.

**Contact:**

Dr Kathryn Zeitz

[Kathryn.zeitz@onaustralia.com.au](mailto:Kathryn.zeitz@onaustralia.com.au)

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**Title:** *Celebration without hospitalization*

**Description:**

Schoolies Festivals are events that give young people the opportunity to celebrate the end of their school life. In Adelaide, young people celebrate Schoolies in a dry zone, however prior to entering this dry zone a substantial amount of alcohol is ingested in caravan parks, surrounding hotels and residences. Data from the 2009 St John Ambulance Australia presentations identified that 14% of young people presented to on-site care last year with an alcohol related condition and/or injury. Of that fourteen percent (14%), fifty percent (50%) of these young people were subsequently transferred and admitted to hospital. The aim of this research is to identify and explore, through the retrospective accounts of 60-80 young people, the ways that young people prepare to minimize and/or be free from alcohol-related harm at Schoolies. The knowledge generated will be used to make recommendations about the development of health information strategies that aim to reduce the number of young people requiring hospitalisation due to alcohol related injury at Schoolies.

**Contact:**

Dr Alison Hutton

[Alison.hutton@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Alison.hutton@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Collaboration between nurses and physicians in the emergency department: an Indonesian study*

**Description:**

Positive collaboration between nurses and physicians is essential in all areas of care especially in emergency practice. This is because it has a significant relationship with the quality, safety, accountability, and responsibility of care. Three areas are positively related to collaborative interaction between nurses and physicians: provider outcomes, patient outcomes, and organizational outcomes.

The aim of this study was to examine nurses' and physicians' attitudes towards nurse-physician collaboration in the Emergency Department of Dr. Saiful Anwar General Hospital, Malang, Indonesia.

The study was a comparative descriptive quantitative study using a modified Jefferson Scale of Attitude towards Physician-Nurse Collaboration. Data were collected from 47 nurses and 24 physicians who participated in the study. Descriptive statistics, parametric and non-parametric inferential statistics were used to determine group scores and to examine differences between groups, as well as to determine the relationship between demographic characteristics and participants attitudes.

**Contact:**

Dr. Virginia Plummer (Monash University)  
Dr. Bev Copnell (Monash University)

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**Title:** *Context-aware mobile decision support systems for medical emergency management in mass gatherings*

**Description:**

This project contributes to gaining a clearer understanding of the nature and requirements of medical emergency during mass gathering events. We will build and test a mobile real-time decision support tool for improving the efficiency of medical decisions to strengthen Australia's ability to manage potential health-related hazards. This project addresses the research priorities of promoting and maintaining good health. It capitalizes on smart information use and will be benefit to mass gathering emergency.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon  
[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Disaster response in aged-care facilities*

**Description:**

A literature review on disaster management in the aged care sector and an analysis of the emerging key issues was undertaken. This led to a report summarizing the key issues for managers of aged care services to consider in their planning for hazards and potential disastrous events. From this report a number of collaborative strategies were identified. One of these was the provision of basic training for aged care eservice administrators and staff about the process of undertaking disaster management contingency planning. A workshop on this topic was developed and supported by Aged & Community Services SA & NT, Resthaven Inc. and the SA Health Director of Emergency Management.

**Contact:**

Dr Lynette Cusack

[Lynette.cusack@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Lynette.cusack@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *EMS trauma triage: does the red-blue criteria enable over-triage?*

**Description:**

This study will attempt to determine if the San Antonio, Texas-area prehospital trauma triage criteria are understood and used appropriately by the local Emergency Medical System (EMS) and emergency department personnel. There is some perception by emergency department staff that a large portion of trauma patients are incorrectly assessed in the field by prehospital personnel. The sample population will consist of all adult military & civilians accepted to Wilford Hall Medical Center based on Priority 1 Trauma criteria. One goal of this study is to identify if this is due to misleading trauma triage criteria and/or education of responding personnel. Other goals of this study include evaluating how well the current trauma criteria appropriately identified patients requiring a Level 1 trauma facility and how well the trauma resuscitation anticipated the needs of the patient. Pre-hospital and arrival survey responses will be compared to the calculated patient Injury Severity Score and final disposition for predictive value.

**Contact:**

Dawn Higgins, Capt, USAF, NC

Emergency Services Charge Nurse

Asst Casualty Management Officer

Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, TX

[Dawn.higgins@us.af.mil](mailto:Dawn.higgins@us.af.mil)

[issshuru@hotmail.com](mailto:issshuru@hotmail.com)

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**Title:** *Emergency Department impact and patient profile of H1N1 Influenza 09 outbreak in Australia: A national survey*

**Description:**

This project responds to the urgent call for research to assess the impact of the 2009 outbreak of H1N1 influenza in Australia. The project surveys members of nursing and medical colleges and accident and emergency departments throughout Australia and provides a review of the nature of presentations, the effect on staffing and workload and the strategies adopted to effectively manage patients presenting to emergency departments.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon

[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Exploring nursing students understanding of being regulated*

**Description:**

This study is focused on students' understanding of their responsibilities, following the introduction and implementation of legislation in South Australia to formally *regulate* nursing and midwifery students. In particular the research investigates nursing and midwifery students' understanding of their accountability to maintain the standards of the profession under the new Nursing and Midwifery Practice Act (2008). Under the Act students are regulated in relation to their medical fitness and propriety; and, are expected to conform to accepted standards of fitness and professional behavior. Student practice is not regulated as students' are acknowledged within the Act as beginning practitioners.

An exploratory descriptive approach will be used to undertake this study. Nursing students at Flinders University, School of Nursing and Midwifery will be recruited as participants in the study. The study will consist of two phases: *Phase 1* will be a survey of first, second and third year undergraduate nursing students and *Phase 2* will utilize semi-structured focus groups of first, second and third year undergraduate nursing students. Phase one will identify key issues of student's understandings of their responsibilities, and Phase two will complement and extend our examination of these key findings by exploring the survey findings in greater depth.

This study is important because it investigates a significant development in our nursing history; the implementation of nursing and midwifery student registration. The study takes advantage of the unique opportunity to investigate the early stage of a significant regulatory change. Student registration has not been implemented in South Australia or nationally previously. The study will explore the introduction of this new regulatory structure from the perspective of students themselves, identify their understanding(s)

of accountability to the legislation, and provide insight into their needs. The research findings will help to inform the implementation of national nursing student regulation because South Australia has been the first jurisdiction to adopt student registration.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon

[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Exploring the disaster content of postgraduate emergency nursing programs in Australia*

**Description:**

This research will describe and explore the disaster content of postgraduate emergency nursing courses as a means to better understand the disaster preparedness of emergency nurses.

**Contact:**

Mr Jamie Ranse

[Jamie.ranse@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Jamie.ranse@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Identification of the health care needs of homeless people during extreme weather events in SA.*

**Description:**

Homelessness is a major cause of poor health. Exposure to extreme weather is one of the numerous risks faced by people who are homeless. Governments and non-government agencies respond to these weather events in a variety of ways. This project seeks to identify health care needs of homeless people during extreme weather events, government and non-government organizations providing services to these people and their response during extreme weather. On the basis of this analysis, recommendations will be made as to how organizations such as RDNS SA Inc. may respond.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon

[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Implications for nursing workforce of catastrophic fire rating days in rural South Australia*

**Description:**

This project explores whether or not there is an increase in the absentee rate of nurses

from health services in rural South Australia, when a catastrophic fire rating day is declared and what the factors are that influence nursing staff absences on a catastrophic fire rating day.

In Australia, following the recent devastating Victorian bushfire disaster, a New Fire Weather Warnings were introduced in South Australia towards the end of 2009 and now refer to Fire Danger Ratings of Severe, Extreme and Catastrophic (Code Red). In November 2009 the Country Fire Service (CFS) and the Department of Education and Children's Services in South Australia developed a policy for schools and pre-school to be temporarily closed and school buses to be cancelled on days of declared 'catastrophic' bushfire weather conditions.

On these days the public are informed to implement their bushfire plan which may include evacuation of their home, and schools may be closed. Members of the community who are local Country Fire Service volunteers may be required to leave their jobs to standby at rural fire stations. The community is recommended not to travel on the roads in the regions where there is a catastrophic warning. This may affect the ability of services and businesses to remain open on these days.

The proposed research will inform, workforce planning in rural areas, and the contingencies that may be required for catastrophic fire rating days to enable health services to be adequately staffed. This research will assist by identifying what the pattern of work attendance is for health settings located in rural areas on catastrophic fire rating days compared to non-catastrophic fire rating days and the issues which may influence workforce availability. This research will help to determine what issues and circumstances affect the availability of the nursing workforce and what strategies may mitigate against the impact of the new fire risk ratings on workforce availability.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon

[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Medication management for chronic disease in disaster*

**Description:**

When natural disasters occur people with chronic diseases who depend on a constant supply of medication become highly vulnerable. In many cases medication is essential on a daily basis and lack of medication may result in death. Continued supply of medication may be a problem when a disaster occurs and, depending on the type of emergency, medication supply can be disrupted for a considerable amount of time. The aim of this project is to compile a chronic disease medication requirement list and compare medication demand in normal and extreme conditions.

**Contact:**

Dr Lidia Mayner

[Lidia.mayner@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Lidia.mayner@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Nurses Attitude toward Family Presence during Resuscitation in Saudi Hospitals*

**Description:**

In Saudi Arabia, when patients are resuscitated their families do not commonly attend, including when children are involved. The presence of family in the patient care area during resuscitation events is a new concept to Saudi Arabia, however it is highly recommended by many health organizations worldwide for several reasons including patient and family rights. There are few policies or guidelines in Saudi Arabia to guide health professionals in their practice around the option of family presence during resuscitations. The lack of policy may be because nurses do not embrace the concept. The purpose of the study is to identify the nurses' attitudes toward family presence during resuscitation. This study is highly significant because the results expected potentially inform future policy development in this concept area of nursing practice.

A quantitative descriptive design was used to explore the attitudes of nurses of King Fahad Hospital-Hofuf and Prince Saud Ben Jalwy Hospital at Al Hassa city in Saudi Arabia towards family presence during resuscitation. Through a self administered structured questionnaire 137 nurses were surveyed. The nurses were required to complete it within two weeks and the response rate was 48.9%. The sample was average of categories of nurses working in the two hospitals and has no less than one year working experience.

**Contact:**

Abbas Al Mutair

Dr. Virginia Plummer (Monash University)

Dr. Beverley Copnell (Monash University)

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**Title:** *Perceptions of Military Medical Disaster Response*

**Description:**

Disaster Response Preparedness, to be effective, needs to become as close to second nature as possible. Without regular and repetitive practice, contingency plans will be rendered ineffective. "Doing what we do every day" is not disaster response; each situation is different, but the objectives are the same. The military population receives specific training and bears the experiences of war-time medical response and mass casualty incidents; particularly in settings where response capabilities are self-reliant, thus largely fixed and known. However, the coordination stateside with large public and private civilian organizations is not often fully incorporated in this training; though in

reality, these organizations would fulfill significant roles in any military stateside disaster response. This study attempts to identify barriers in attitudes and buy-in with regards to motivation and participation in medical disaster preparedness at a military Level 1 trauma center emergency department. Results of this study will be used in future training programs to enhance participation and improve training efficacy of military medical personnel for better disaster response.

**Contact:**

Dawn Higgins, Capt, USAF, NC  
Emergency Services Charge Nurse  
Asst Casualty Management Officer  
Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland AFB, TX  
[Dawn.higgins@us.af.mil](mailto:Dawn.higgins@us.af.mil)  
[issshuru@hotmail.com](mailto:issshuru@hotmail.com)

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**Title:** *Safe partying seminars evaluation*

**Description:**

This project will evaluate the seminars that have been provided for the secondary school students in South Australia. This seminar has been provided by the NGO organization before the schoolies season to encourage students to learn how to stay safe and healthy at the schoolies event. The students are asked to fill out the evaluation form. The result of this evaluation will be utilized to improve the seminar and will also inform young people's understanding of safe drinking.

**Contact:**

Dr Alison Hutton  
[Alison.hutton@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Alison.hutton@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Simulation Education and Papua New Guinea Nurses' Decision-making in Chest Pain Management*

**Description:**

This study focuses on simulation education used as a teaching strategy in educating nurses' in Papua New Guinea (PNG). The nurses are from PNG, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands and undertaking Bachelor of Clinical Nursing at the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG).

The aim of the study was to evaluate any changes in the postgraduate nurses' decision making, before the intervention, immediately after, and post 5 weeks intervention. The 'effect of simulation education' on nurses' knowledge and skills may improve after the intervention.

A one-group pre-tested-post-tested experimental design was used. A convenience sample of 22 nurses was recruited from the Division of Nursing, UPNG. This study adapts Jeffries (2005) conceptual framework on simulation education use in developing, designing, delivering, and diffusing in educating nurses.

**Contact:**

Thompson Telepo (Monash University)  
Dr Virginia Plummer, RN, PhD (Monash University),  
Dr Jenny Newton, EdD, RN (Monash University)

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**Title:** *Staying safe and healthy at schoolies*

**Description:**

Schoolies festivals are events that give young people the opportunity to celebrate the end of their school life. These festivals provide a 'safe zone' in designated alcohol-free areas for dance and live music. Festivals such as the Adelaide Schoolies Festival are a common phenomenon in today's society and provide the opportunity to investigate the health protective behaviors of young people who attend mass gatherings. This pilot study provides baseline data about young people's health safety concerns and improves the preparedness of health professionals at these gatherings.

**Contact:**

Dr Alison Hutton  
[Alison.hutton@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Alison.hutton@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Understanding the willingness of emergency nurses to respond to a health care disaster*

**Description:**

Disaster response is an emergency nursing responsibility. However responding to disasters is becoming more hazardous as terrorism, pandemics and chemical industrial accidents challenge the safety of nurse responders and their families. International experience has shown that nurses can become victims of disasters and that fear of contaminating family and friends may prevent nurses from attending work or returning home during a disaster response.

This research contributes to disaster planning by providing insight into the factors that affect the willingness of Australian emergency nurses to respond to disasters. This research will facilitate disaster planning and policy development at national and health agency levels that better supports the personal needs of emergency nurses during disaster response.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon

[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *World Youth Day patient presentation characteristics*

**Description:**

This project aims to establish a databases of patient presentations and mass gathering event profiles across all events during the four days of World youth day in Sydney in 2008, to analyze quantitative data from the event and compare findings across the WYD events and with existing predictive modeling data to provide a more sophisticated understanding of the key factors that affect patient presentations at mass gatherings.

**Contact:**

Prof Paul Arbon

[Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Paul.arbon@flinders.edu.au)

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**Title:** *Workforce Reform in Critical Care Nurses Staffing: The effects on Patient Outcome and Nurse Job Satisfaction in Saudi Arabia*

**Description:**

The introduction of the New Health Care System in Saudi Arabia has prompted an examination of nurses staffing management of critical care units and how they contribute to patient outcomes and nurse job satisfaction. The delivery of safe and effective nursing care requires an appropriate and evidence-based plan for nursing staff management. By making improvements in recruitment processes and evidence-based planning of nursing resources in ICUs, some of the harmful impacts on patient outcomes and on nurses themselves could be mitigated.

The objective is o explore the effect that current nurse staffing practices and patterns including staffing levels, qualification, experience, nurse-patient ratio, and skill mix have on patient outcomes and the level of nurses' job satisfaction.

A descriptive comparative study utilizing a mixed methods approach was used. A cross-sectional analysis of administrative data for two years from seven hospitals will be linked to critical care units nursing characteristics. Patient outcomes of interest are mortality rate, medication errors, hospital acquired infection rate, and accidental extubation. The Index of Work Satisfaction (Stamps, 1997) was used to survey 400 critical care nurses at seven hospitals. Nurse Managers were also surveyed in relation to recruitment standards, nursing skill mix, nurse-patient ratio and other aspects of nurses

working conditions. Numerical data are being analyzed using SPSS and qualitative data are being analyzed using content analysis.

**Contact:**

Saleh Al Talal

Dr. Virginia Plummer (Monash University)

Professor Wendy Cross (Monash University)