

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

Nursing research is systematic inquiry designed to develop trustworthy evidence about issues of importance to the nursing profession. Nursing research in the narrow sense refers to a scientific process that validates and refines existing knowledge and generates new knowledge that directly and indirectly influences clinical nursing practice. Scientific research in nursing dates back to Florence Nightingale. Her data collection and analysis of factors affecting mortality and the illness of soldiers during the war resulted in changes in health care (Seemed, 2017).

As indicated by Oluwatosin, (2014), research is viewed in most professional circles as necessary for the development of scientific body of knowledge. Research based practice is hall-mark of professional Nursing and Nursing research is critical for quality cost effective care.

Furthermore, there is a global challenge to health care professionals to justify the evidence base for their decisions and to be able to meet its demand, Nurses need to conduct research (Chein Bai, 2013).

The main purpose of this study is to examine attitudes of nurses towards conducting a research.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In the past nursing lack credibility as the public felt that nurses has no contribution to the public with research Nursing development its body of knowledge and has emerged as a profession that can boldly say what they do, how and why they do them (Oluwatosin 2014).

The international council of Nurses facilitates and promotes the conduct and utilization of research related to Nursing, health and healthcare system.

However, where the ability to perform research activities is higher, attitude towards research were more positive and vice-versa (Chien *et al*, 2013). Despite these notable virtues of research to the Nursing profession, Nurses do not seem to participate in their independent conduct of researches.

This prompts the researcher to carry out his study to know the attitude of Nurses toward conducting research in General Hospital Katsina to identify the factors that influence their negative towards research and proper possible solutions.

1.3 Objective of the Study

The main objective of the study is to determine attitude of nurses towards conducting research.

1.2.1 Specific Objectives

1. To determine the level of participation of nurses in conducted research among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina .

2. To determine the attitude of nurses towards conducting research among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina.
3. To identify factors that are militating against conducting research among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina.

1.4 Research Questions

1. What is the level of participation of nurses in conducting researches among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina?
2. What is the attitude of nurses toward conducting research among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina?
3. What are the factors that are militating against conducting research among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina?

1.5 Significant of the Study

This research is significant on the following context.

- Nurses: it will help to modify the nurses attitude towards research and enlighten the nurses on the factors that will improve nursing research.
- Organization: it will motivate the nurses working in General Hospital Katsina to embark on research study and utilize research finding in patient care.

1.6 Operational Definition of Terms

- i. Research: means to investigate a phenomenon or an event.
- ii. Attitude: means positive or negative view of Nurses towards conducting research.

- iii. Nurse: means a person licensed to provide care to the sick or injured person.
- iv. Nursing: means the profession under which nurses perform their professional care.
- v. Patient: A patient is a person who is ill or undergoing treatment for healthcare problem.
- vi. Trustworthy: Able to be relied on as honest or truthful.
- vii. Dissemination: the action of fact of spreading something especially information, widely.
- viii. Conducting, Organize and Carryout.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Literature Review

2.1 Conceptual Review

Attitude is simply defined as an individual general feeling about something which determines whether we respond positively or negatively towards an object or person. Attitude entails evaluation, but that evaluation is not observable and may even be unconscious (Akinsola, 2017).

Polit and Beck (2014) define the differences in nursing research, research utilization, and evidence-based practice. "Nursing research is the systematic inquiry designed to develop knowledge about the issues of importance to the nursing profession" (p. 3). "Research utilization is the use of research findings in a practice setting" (p. 4). "Evidence-based practice is broadly defined as the use of the best clinical evidence in making patient decisions" (p.4). This research work includes all three aspects in its standards supporting nursing research to define the nurse's role.

2.2 Theoretical Review

The theory used in this research project is Donabedian's paradigm of structure, process, and outcome (Donabedian, 2015). The original framework addresses aspects of the infrastructure needed by an organization to support quality.

Donabedian's work originated in the 1960s as the healthcare industry was just starting to define quality. The framework defines assumptions about quality of care that are drawn from three categories: structure, process, and outcome.

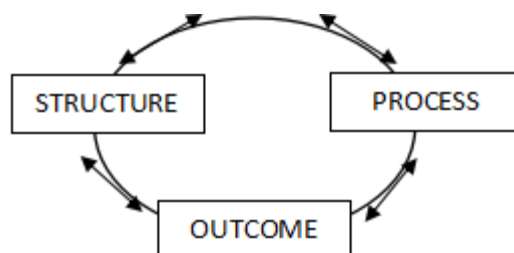
Donabedian's structure represents the characteristics of the settings in which care occurs. This includes the aspects of: material resources, human resources, and organizational structure. Material resources include such items as facilities, equipment and money. Human resources are defined as the number and qualifications of personnel.

Organizational structure refers to staff organization, methods of peer review and methods of reimbursement. Process denotes what is actually done in giving and receiving care. It includes the patient's activities in seeking care and carrying it out. Outcome denotes the effects of care on the health status of patients (Keeney, 2012).

These are not attributes of quality; rather they are the kinds of information from which inferences can be made about the quality of care. Donabedian's approach concludes that good structure is the basis of good processes. Good processes in turn ultimately leads to quality outcomes (Donabedian, 2015). The continuous feedback loop in the model infers that structure and process are linked together and impact outcomes.

Therefore, improvements made in structure or processes have the ability to improve outcomes. Figure 1 depicts the continuous feedback loop that exists between structure and process. Donabedian's framework suggests good structure in combination with good processes produces good outcomes.

Figure 1. The relationship of structure, process, and outcome.



Applying Donabedian's framework to the research process can be done. Structure in terms of material resources includes the facilities, equipment, and money to do research. Human resources include the number of qualified personnel who have been educated in the research process and who can perform and assist in research. Organizational structure in terms of research includes a nursing research committee or nursing research program and presence of an Institutional Review Board (IRB). Process research is the day-to-day activities of doing research. This allows nurses the time to conduct research. Performing the analysis of the research findings is also a process. Other examples of processes related to research include support from other members of the nursing team and a clear procedure to develop a research proposal. An important aspect of process includes the ability to incorporate research findings into daily practice.

When applying Donabedian's framework to research, outcome refers to the "effects of implementation and improvement in nurses' knowledge of the research process evidenced by an increase in the number of nurses who take part in research" (Redfeam et al, 2014, p. 346). A good supporting structure/process has the ability to achieve several outcomes related to nursing research. These include:

- (a) Increasing nursing research knowledge,
- (b) Increasing support for nursing research through mentoring, and

(c) Development of a nursing research education program (Redfeam et al, 2014).

Another potential of the application of Donabedian's framework is having nursing practice grounded in research. Nurses use protocols, procedures, and clinical pathways to guide care delivery in daily practice. Infusing protocols, procedures, and clinical pathways with evidence-based interventions provides the support for practice based in research.

Nursing attitudes toward the organizational infrastructure (structure and process) have an impact on the nurses' perceived ability to participate in research at any level.

Attitudes can either facilitate or suppress research; therefore, they affect the outcomes of nursing interventions and practices grounded in research. If organizations, for example, do not attend to both the infrastructure for nursing research and nursing attitudes, they will have difficulty providing the environment in which nursing research is practiced.

2.3 Empirical Review

Many studies have examined nurses' attitudes toward research and the facilitators of and barriers to research, research utilization, and evidence-based practice. In 2014, Hutchinson and Johnston performed a study using a 29 item instrument titled Barriers to Research Utilization or the BARRIERS Scale. The aim of the study was to gain an

understanding of perceived influences on nurses' utilization of research and to explore differences or commonalities between the findings and various studies done in the last 10 years. The convenience sample was obtained at a major teaching hospital. The study had a 45% response rate. The findings suggest that the greatest barriers to research utilization included time constraints and lack of awareness of available literature. In addition, the authors found insufficient authority to change practice, inadequate skills in critical appraisal, and a lack of support for implementing research findings. In contrast, the greatest facilitators to research utilization included availability of time to review and implement research findings. The researchers also found availability of relevant research and support from colleagues as facilitators. Limitations of the study include a self-reporting method and the accuracy of nurses' perceptions. Low response rate may reflect a bias. For seven items on the questionnaire, more than 10% of respondents reported no opinion or failed to respond. Findings were conducted in one organization and are difficult to generalize to other settings.

2.3.1 Level of Participation Of Nurses Towards Conducting A Research

According to the findings, 62% of the participants stated they were aware of evidence-based practice; however, 38% of the participants stated they were not familiar with the term. The researchers were concerned with the finding that 43% of respondents were unable to "identify a source of information and resources about evidence-based

practice” (p. 96). The limitations of the study include use of a convenience sample with a non-validated instrument. The ability to generalize the results is not possible. “The absence of demographic data and small number of items using dichotomous responses limited the use of inferential statistics” (Mott et al., p. 101). Funk, Champagne, Wiese, and Tomquist performed a large-scale study in 2013. The purpose of their study was to “determine clinicians’ perceptions of the barriers to using research findings in practice and to solicit their input as to what factors would facilitate such use” (p.90). The researchers used the ANA membership roster to select 5,000 nurses. The sample was randomly selected from the educational categories of diploma, associate degree, bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees. Nurses were excluded if they were not employed full time. Their return rate was 40% or n=1,989. The sample was defined as those reporting their job function as clinical versus administrative, teaching or research. This left a sample of 924 respondents. The descriptive survey was a quantitative design with one qualitative question. The qualitative question asked respondents to choose the three greatest barriers and to write comments specifying the facilitation of using research findings in practice. The instrument used was the BARRIERS scale.

2.3.2 Attitude of Nurses Towards Conducting A Research

According to Samia et al., T (2013) their research conducted on a cross-sectional survey on nurses attitude toward research in King Saud bin Abdul’aziz Hospital of Saudi Arabia with aims and Objectives to analyse

the attitude of Nurses toward research component in order to discover implications for the best practices teaching/learning process with informed, voluntary consent, data on Nurses Attitude towards research were collected using a self-administered questionnaire. A descriptive cross-sectional investigation was carried out with purposively selected 186 Nurses, the questionnaire consisted of 32 items on a likert scale of strongly agree (4) to strongly disagree (1) with the scores ranging from 32 to 128 analysis were performed using SPSS version 2.0. the overall attitude towards research was positive with a mean score (68.4 + - 6.580). most of the nurses (78%) regarded that research is useful for the nursing profession. Positive attitude towards research was demonstrated by 68% of the nurses 61% reported that research plays an important role in professional and personal life, whereas the highest proportion of nurses 71% perceived as a difficult complicated stressful subject and 64% reported statistical difficulty. In their recommendation and conclusion they stated that although many of the nurses have a favourable attitude towards the research process and acknowledge its usefulness and benefit to the nursing profession many of them perceived their research as stressful. Most of them reported having negative feelings and anxiety towards the research process. In corporation research in to the nursing practice to the clinical practice and having a statistical expert from the research center teaching learning strategies, would yield more positive experience for nurses.

Pravikoff et al. released a study in 2015 that examines nurses' "perceptions of their skills in obtaining evidence and their access to tools with which to do so" (p.41).

The study was a quantitative descriptive exploratory survey mailed to a geographically stratified random sample of 3,000 United States (U.S.) registered nurses. The return rate was 37% or 1,097 surveys. The sample was condensed to include those currently working and excluding those working in administration and education, leaving a sample of 760.

The measurement tool was a 93 item questionnaire used in earlier studies and was modified for use in this research. Content validity was established by experts. The researchers found that the nurses acknowledged they frequently need information for practice, they felt much more confident asking peers or colleagues, or searching the Internet than using databases such as PubMed or Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL®). One limitation of the study is that while the educational preparation and ages were identified, the data analysis was not separated accordingly.

Diploma and associate degree nurses accounted for greater than 50% of the clinical respondents. In the age demographics, 79% of the study participants were 40 years of age or old. Educational preparation along with technological readiness (age factor) may have an effect on the interest of using evidence-based practice and research in the nurses' work. The researchers made no attempt to analyze the data based on

these factors (extraneous variables) and made generalizations on the readiness of U.S. nurses based on this study.

Mott et al. published a study in 2015 that sought to “evaluate baseline knowledge in order to assess and inform a multifaceted intervention to promote evidence-based practice in Western Sydney, Australia” (p. 96). The convenience sample consisted of 229 nurses. The design was a quality assurance project that was reviewed by the IRB. The instrument was investigator developed and consisted of five questions related to the concepts of evidence-based practice.

2.3.3 Factors Militating Against Nurses Conducting A Research

The researchers divided the tool into four subscales or factors. These four factors include the nurse, setting, research, and presentation. Each factor is defined through the:

- (a) Characteristics of the nurse (nurse’s research values, skills and awareness),
- (b) Characteristics of the setting (barriers and limitations perceived in the work setting),
- (c) Characteristics of the research (methodological soundness and appropriateness of conclusions) and
- (d) Characteristics of the presentation of research and its accessibility (p. 91).

The findings suggest that the two greatest barriers are insufficient time periods to implement new ideas and not enough authority to change patient care procedures. All eight items related to the characteristics of the settings were among the top ten rated barriers. These were:

- (a) Authority to change procedures,
- (b) Insufficient time,
- (c) Uncooperative physicians,
- (d) Unsupportive administration,
- (e) Unsupportive peers,
- (f) Inability to generalize results to their setting,
- (g) Inadequate facilities for implementation, and
- (h) Not enough time to read research.

Facilitators to research that were identified included increasing administrative support and encouragement, improving feasibility of research reports, and improving the research knowledge base of the practicing nurse.

Colleague support was also a facilitator to research along with increasing time for reviewing research and assisting with understanding research reports. Funk et al. also explored the relationship between selected demographic characteristics and research barriers/facilitators. The

characteristics included a breakdown by educational level: 50% of the sample held a diploma or associate degree, 40% had a bachelor's degree and 10% held either a master's or doctoral degree. The authors did find weak effect of educational preparation on the BARRIERS scale score.

While statistically significant, the authors felt the actual difference of two tenths of a point on the Barriers four-point scale was not of any importance.

Estabrooks et al. (2013) performed an integrative literature review and meta analysis. The purpose was to "report findings on a systematic review of studies that examine individual characteristics of nurses and how they influence the utilization of research" (p. 506). For an article to be included in the meta-analysis it had to "measure one or more individual determinants of research utilization, measure the dependent variable (research utilization), and evaluate the relationship between the dependent and independent variables" (p. 506). In addition to the above-mentioned criteria, the studies had to "indicate the direction of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables, report a p value and the statistic used, and indicate the magnitude of the relationship" (p. 506). Twenty studies met the criteria. The findings comprise six categories of potential individual determinants. The authors categorized them as:

(a) Beliefs and attitudes,

(b) Involvement in research activities,

- (c) Information seeking,
- (d) Professional characteristics,
- (e) Education, and
- (f) Socio-economic factors.

“Methodological problems surfaced in all the studies and apart from attitude to research, there was little to suggest that any potential individual determinant influences research use” (p. 506). The overall limitations the authors found in their review were “lack of support from administration and lack of understanding research/statistical analysis of inter-correlations among variables” (p.519).

2.3.4 Summary

Nurse’s attitude toward research development which shows that more than half of the nurses (63.4%) are participating in research and 34.5% of the nurses not taking it reported that they participated in scientific meetings which are effective in development of research evaluation skills of nurses and are part of education for research. Attitude to research are import and indicators of utilizing research in practice and evidence based practices. In conclusion and recommendation show overall attitude towards research have not significantly changed over the last 26 years in the nursing profession. The same barriers of insufficient time, lack of support from administration and lack of understanding research/statistical analysis are still seen as common barriers toward

conducting research. This study suggests there is a positive attitude toward implementing advantageous research finding into the practice environment.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Methodology

3.1 Research Design

The design used for this study is descriptive research design, it is adopted to seek the views of nurses about their attitude towards conducting research.

3.2 Research Setting

The research was conducted at general hospital Katsina, general hospital Katsina being among the oldest secondary health institution in Northern part of Nigeria. It was established since 1930 but finally constructed and equipped in 1975 by then the governor Brigedier E.O Abisoye.

The hospital is blessed with various Nurses, Midwives, Doctors and other distinguished personnel which are all employed by the Katsina state Government under the health services management board.

Nursing department is headed by chief Nursing HOD nursing, there are various ward/unit that nurses work under i.e maternity, outpatient department (OPD), pediatric, male medical , male surgical, female medical, female surgical, ear, nose and throat (ENT), theater. Accident and emergency (A and E), antenatal care (ANC).

Nurses carryout so many activities in care of patient which include vital signs observations i.e measuring of temperature, pulse, respiration and blood pressure, wound dressing, monitoring of intra venous fluids , serving of meal, serving of urinal , serving of medications, serving of injections among many .

The hospital was located at Yaranchi area of Katsina metropolis, Katsina local government. The hospital is the training centre for basic nursing students, post basic students, various pharmacist and medical students from different institutions.

3.3 Target Population

The target population for this study are all nurses (215) working in general hospital katsina.

3.4 Sample size

Sample size will be determine using Taro Yamane's Formular $n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$.

1 is constant.

e - is the degree of error expected = 0.05

N - is the population size

Thus, N = 215

$$N = \frac{215}{1 + 215 (0.05)^2}$$

$$= \frac{215}{1 + 215 (0.0025)}$$

$$= \frac{215}{1 + 0.538}$$

$$= \frac{215}{1.538}$$

$$= 140$$

Therefore, sample size = 140

3.5 Sampling technique

Simple random, sampling technique was employed for the study to select the subjects.

3.6 Instrument for Data Collection

A structured questionnaire was used to collect data from the respondents. The instrument comprised of four sections (A,B,C and D) section A & B consisted of questionnaire items and section C and D consisted of liker scale items constructed based on research questions.

3.7 Validity of the Instrument

The instrument was validated by supervisor and colleague using face and content validity.

3.8 Reliability of the Instrument

Reliability was checked through a present survey (pilot study) on ten respondents and the result was found to be consistent.

3.9 Method of Data Collection

The data was collected by the researcher using self-administered questionnaire. With the ethical clearance obtained from the hospital management, the researcher get entry into the hospital that is General Hospital Katsina, introduced self and seek permission from the hospital authority to carry out the research.

3.10 Method of Data Analysis

The data was analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (SPSS) version 20.0. The result was presented in simple descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages.

3.11 Ethical Consideration

Permission was obtained from the Head of Nursing Department (DNS). Respondents participated voluntarily and confidentiality was ensured.

APPENDIX

National Open University of
Nigeria,
Katsina Stusy Centre,
Katsina State.

Dear Respondents,

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON ATTITUDE OF NURSES TOWARDS
CONDUCTING RESEARCH A CASE STUDY OF GENERAL
HOSPITAL KATSINA**

I am BNSc Nursing Student from the above named institution conducting a research work on the topic; Attitude of Nurses towards conducting a research among nurses working in General Hospital Katsina.

Please respond sincerely, your views or options remains confidential only be used for the purpose of this research.

Thank you.

Instruction: Tick appropriately on options provided to each questions.

SECTION A : Demographic Data

1. Age: (a) 18 - 25 years (), (b) 26 - 35 years (), (c) 36 – 45 () (d) 46 and above (),

2. Sex: (a) Male (), (b) Female ().

3. Marital status: (a) Single (), (b) Married (), (c) Divorced (), (d) Widow ().

4. Professional qualification: (a) Basic Nursing (), (b) Post Basic Nursing (), (c) Bachelor in Nursing science (), (d) Others specified

**SECTION B: LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION AMONG NURSES IN
GENERAL HOSPITAL KASTINA.**

1. Have you ever participate in conducting research?

(a) Yes () (b) No ().

2. If yes how many times? If No skip

3. How often do nurses conduct research in general hospital katsina?

(a) Never (), (b) Often (), (c)Very Often () (d) Rare ()

4. Are you utilizing nursing research in care of your patient?

(a) Yes () (b) No ().

5. If yes to question 4 what was the outcome?

(a) Very effective (), (b) Effective (), (c) Non effective ().

SECTION C: ATTITUDE OF NURSES TOWARDS CONDUCTING OF RESEARCH AMONG NURSES IN GENERAL HOSPITAL KASTINA.

s/n	Factors	S.A	A	D	S.D
1.	Conducting a research can help in improving nursing care.				
2.	Nurses should be fully participating in conducting research work.				
3.	A research is necessary for				

	many professionals including nursing.				
4.	Conducting research improved patient care, evaluation and management.				
5.	A conducting research in care of patient is important.				

SECTION D: FACTORS MILITATING AGAINST NURSES CONDUCTING RESEARCH AMONG NURSES WORKING IN GENERAL HOSPITAL KATSINA.

S/N	Factors	YES	NO
1.	Lack of accessibility to research materials		
2.	Poor organizational support of using research finding		
3.	Lack of access to technology		
4.	Time constraint		
5.	Work overload		