Gerontological Nursing Interventions Research Center
Toni Tripp-Reimer, PhD, RN
University of Iowa; Iowa City, IA

BACKGROUND / RATIONALE:

The broad objective of the Gerontological Nursing Interventions Research Center (GNIRC) at the University of Iowa is to provide an environment that will strengthen and expand research in nursing and related disciplines regarding the health of elders in a variety of care settings and to facilitate the translation of that research into clinical practice.

The purpose of the Research Methods Core is to increase the number and expertise of nurse scientists with funded programs of gerontological research, with emphasis on intervention and outcomes effectiveness studies. This will be accomplished through research training and consultation, as well as facilitating secondary data analyses. Each of these mechanisms will be tailored to the stage of the nurse researcher's career development.

OBJECTIVE(S):

The overall aims for the entire GNIRC are to:1. strengthen an infrastructure dedicated to the facilitation of gerontological nursing research with an emphasis on interventions and outcomes effectiveness studies;2. mentor and support junior investigators (or those new to this area of research) in the conduct of pilot projects that will serve as the basis for large-scale externally funded projects in gerontological nursing research;3.provide a stimulating collaborative environment in which established senior investigators in gerontological nursing and their interdisciplinary counterparts can continue to thrive;4.facilitate the transfer of knowledge from the academic to: a) practice (long-term care, community-based, and acute care) settings, and b) the broader scientific community;5. provide gerontologically centered training opportunities in research design and methods to investigators throughout the continuum of their research careers;6. strengthen collaborative relations among faculty at partner schools (predominantly in the Midwest), thereby achieving a greater variety of content and methods expertise, gaining access to more extensive and heterogeneous elderly subjects, and facilitating multi-site studies;7. delineate and implement 3 types of partner relationships (Intense, Peer, and Mentored) among the consortium schools.

The specific aims for The Research Methods core are to: 1. Provide training to expand and enrich the research skills of nurse faculty and increase the number of those faculty with skills to test gerontological interventions and conduct outcomes effectiveness research.2. Provide consultation to nurse scientists and interdisciplinary colleagues on the methods and statistical analyses necessary for proposal development, data management, and data analysis. 3. Establish and provide technical support for a data repository accessible to nurse researchers at all participating institutions, who may use it to conduct aging-focused research to assess nursing effectiveness, determine the cost effectiveness of nursing interventions, or inform health policy. Included in the data repository will be large national, state, and local publicly-available datasets; clinical research datasets using standardized nursing language and instruments; and research data from studies, some completed at Iowa and other institutions in the consortium, that may be available through collaboratory agreements.4. Provide support to enable nurse scientists to analyze the effectiveness of gerontological nursing interventions using large clinical data sets from the database repository established in Aim 3, through increasing nurse scientists' knowledge of standardized nursing languages, skills in database management, understanding of risk adjustment procedures, and ability to conduct secondary analyses that cross-cut multiple databases5. Provide assistance to the other Cores in their evaluation activities.

STATUS:

This project is ongoing.

PUBLICATIONS:

Journal Articles

1. Tang JH, Titler MG. Evidence-based practice residency program in gerontological nursing. Journal of Gerontological Nursing 2003; 29: 9-14.

Conference Presentations / Abstracts

2. Titler MG. Managing in an EBP Environment: What Does it Mean for Nursing Leaders. Cerner Informatics Symposium. Kansas City, MO 2004.

3. Titler MG. Statistics and Evidence-Based Practice. Sigma Theta Tau International 15th International Research Congress Workshop 'Promoting Adoption of Evidence-Based Practice: Beyond the Basics'. Dublin, Ireland 2004.

4. Titler MG. Taking the Lead. Sigma Theta Tau International 15th International Research Congress Workshop 'Promoting Adoption of Evidence-Based Practice: Beyond the Basics'. Dublin, Ireland 2004.

5. Titler MG. Implementing Evidence-Based Practices - the Reality of Change: Users of the EBP. Sigma Theta Tau International 15th International Research Congress Workshop 'Promoting Adoption

of Evidence-Based Practice: Beyond the Basics'. Dublin, Ireland 2004.

6. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Practice. Evidence-Based Practice Symposium, University of Detroit Mercy McAuley School of Nursing and St Joseph Mercy Oakland. Detroit, MI 2003.

7. Titler MG. Implementing Evidence-Based Practices. University of Kentucky College of Nursing. Lexington, KY 2003.

8. Titler MG. Implementing Evidence-Based Practices - the Reality of Change: Communication is Key to Success.. Sigma Theta Tau International 15th International Research Congress Workshop 'Promoting Adoption of Evidence-Based Practice: Beyond the Basics'. Dublin, Ireland 2004.

9. Titler MG. Translating Evidence into Nursing Practices for Older Adult Care. Translating Evidence into Nursing Practices for Older Adult Care Sponsored by the National Gerontological Nursing Association and the University of Akron. Houston, TX 2003.

10. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Practice Symposium Days 1 and 2. TriServices. Mobile, AL 2003.

11. Titler MG. Translating Research: Changing Practice. Center for Gerontological Nursing, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. Minneapolis, MN 2003.

12. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Practice and Nursing Leadership. TriServices (3-Day Workshop). Washington, DC 2003.

13. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Practice and Quality Improvement: New Names for Old Processes. Florence Cellar Gerontological Conference. Cleveland, OH 2003.

14. Titler MG. Introduction to Evidence-Based Nursing Practice. Evidence-Based Nursing: Theory, Research and Practice. Daegu, South Korea 2004.

15. Titler MG. What is the Quality of Evidence for Evidence-Based Practice?. Kaiser Permanente 2nd Evidence-Based Practice Conference. Pasadena, CA 2003.

16. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Nursing in Clinical Practice. Evidence-Based Nursing: Theory, Research and Practice. Daegu, South Korea 2004.

17. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Nursing in Nursing Education. Evidence-Based Nursing: Theory, Research and Practice. Daegu, South Korea 2004.

18. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Nursing at Iowa. Evidence-Based Nursing: Theory, Research and Practice. Daegu, South Korea 2004.

19. Titler MG. Introduction to Evidence-Based Nursing Practice (Public Health Nursing Practice). University of Kentucky College of Nursing. Lexington, KY 2004.

20. Titler MG. Evidence-Based Practice: What it is, What it is Not. Your Practice Based on Evidence: Understanding and Implementing Evidence-Based Practice, offered collaboratively by the University

of Maryland School of Nursing and Veterans' Affairs Maryland Health Care System. Baltimore, MD 2004.

21. Titler MG. Managing in an EBP Environment: What Does it Mean for Nursing Leaders. American Organizations of Nurse Executives 2004 Exposition and Convention. Phoenix, AZ 2004.

22. Titler MG. Application: Designing Your Evidence-Based Practice Program. Sigma Theta Tau International 15th International Research Congress Workshop 'Promoting Adoption of Evidence-Based Practice: Beyond the Basics'. Dublin, Ireland 2004.

23. Titler MG. Translating Research into Practice: A United States Perspective. Sigma Theta Tau International 15th International Research Congress Pre Conference. Dublin, Ireland 2004.