

About the NHSRU

The Nursing Health Services Research Unit (NHSRU) provides the information necessary for evidence informed policy and management decisions related to health and nursing services in Ontario. Research conducted by the NHSRU contributes to improving the work environments for nurses and other health care professionals and predicting future health human resources workforce needs to ensure the sustainability of a quality health care system.

The NHSRU aims to develop, conduct and disseminate research that focuses on design, management, utilization, outcomes and provision of nursing services.

The NHSRU was re-funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) from July 2004 until June 2009. This ongoing support from the MOHLTC has allowed the NHSRU to build on the established infrastructure while continuing to conduct research that reflects changing health service priorities.

The NHSRU's new goals incorporate knowledge transfer as central to the research process.



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Nursing Health Services Research Unit

Innovative health services research

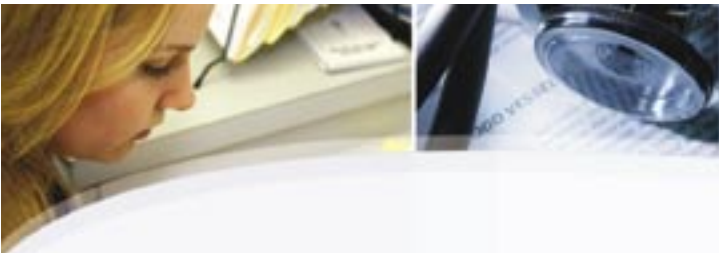
*Providing research to plan,
design and manage a changing
health care system*



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A collaborative project of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Nursing
and the McMaster University School of Nursing

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Reports and Publications

Via our website the NHSRU provides access to research materials relevant to nurses, researchers, public health professionals and policy makers in Ontario, Canada and internationally. Resources available for downloading include

- Research reports
- Publications
- Working papers
- Electronic Newsletter (the NHSRU Bulletin)
- Fact Sheets
- Bi-Annual Research Forums/Seminar

Areas of Research

The scope of the NHSRU's research is extensive, ranging from new graduate to mid-career, late career nurses, and covering community, hospital and long-term care settings. In addition to pioneering work in health human resources planning, the NHSRU's research projects and those of our Co-investigators explore various issues including internationally educated nurses, skill mix, homelessness, patient safety, workload, quality work environments for nurses and other healthcare professionals.

The Team

The NHSRU is a collaborative project of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Nursing and McMaster University, School of Nursing.

The sites are supported by a network of approximately 50 Co-Investigators from around the world, along with numerous associated researchers. A full list of the NHSRU Co-Investigators is available on our website. This team of Co-Investigators represents a wide range of disciplines and expertise including nursing, business, labor studies, sociology, health care policy and economics.

The University of Toronto site is directed by Dr. Linda O'Brien-Pallas, a professor at the Faculty of Nursing. Dr. O'Brien-Pallas is the inaugural Canadian Health Services Research Foundation/Canadian Institute of Health Research Chair, Nursing/Health Human Resources. Dr. O'Brien-Pallas has served on several boards including the Canadian Nurses Advisory Committee and the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario. Her research interests include nursing health human resources, workload measurement and patient classification systems, factors including variability in nursing resource use and patient outcomes, and the quality of nursing worklife. In 2006,



Dr. O'Brien-Pallas received the Canadian Nurses Association's prestigious Jeanne Mance Award for her ongoing contribution to the nursing profession and the health of Canadians.



The McMaster University site operates under the leadership of Dr. Andrea Baumann. Dr. Baumann is the Associate Vice-President of the Faculty of Health Sciences, International Health and a Professor in the School of Nursing. Dr. Baumann is the Director of the World Health Organization Centre in Health Human Resources and Primary Health Care. Dr. Baumann's leadership positions have included the Chair of a hospital Board of Trustees and membership on the Interim Governing Council of Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Her research contributes to the area of health human resources planning, production, and management; health care systems and organizational restructuring; migration and mobility; clinical decision making; and quality practice environments.



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