

Nursing research. Principles and methods: 7th edition

Authored by DF Polit and CT Beck

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This book would be of interest to dental hygiene educators, undergraduate and graduate dental hygiene students and researchers. In the dental hygiene field, there are few resources about research processes pertaining specifically to dental hygiene. Therefore, it is necessary to look to other professional groups for resources pertaining to research. Nursing resources are helpful as there are many similar elements between the two professions making it possible to apply the nursing resources to dental hygiene.

This book is comprehensively written. Readers will be able to utilize this book to augment their understanding of research process, to critically assess the research literature, and to apply research findings to practice. Dental hygiene students and practitioners are becoming increasingly mindful of the need to critically assess the literature as a component for evidence-based decision making in practice. This book could be a required text for students in a guided research course. However, the book is also designed such that a dental hygiene practitioner interested in better understanding and utilizing research could work through the material as a self-study learning process. A study guide that includes a CD-ROM is available to augment the text book itself.

Each chapter includes examples of research that add to the readers' understanding of the particular aspect of the research process being discussed in the chapter. The examples are naturally focused on the nursing field; however, as stated previously, given the numerous similarities between the nursing and dental hygiene professions, it is easy to transpose the example into the dental hygiene setting. It is particularly worthy to note that the research examples commonly include both a quantitative and qualitative example that help the learner to better understand both types of research processes. The text is inclusive of both quantitative and qualitative processes.

The book is organized into seven specific sections that together contain a total of 27 chapters. The first section begins with a discussion of the foundation of nursing research including the philosophical underpinnings of both qualitative and quantitative research processes. This first section also includes the explanation of numerous key terms related to research as well as an overview of the research processes and provides a preliminary background to the more detailed content presented in the ensuing sections and chapters of the book. The remaining six sections proceed through: (1) conceptualization of a research study, (2) designs for research, (3) measurement and data collection, (4) analysis of research data, (5) communicating the research, and (6) utilizing the research results. It is a comprehensive collection of chapters covering the aspects of planning, conducting, disseminating and applying research and appraising research literature.

The content in each chapter is well organized with specific subheadings throughout the chapters that highlight the content, making it easy to locate particular information. Moreover, separate boxes and/or tables are used to summarize and highlight material within the chapter. Each chapter concludes with summary points, 'tips' for doing research, study activities and suggested readings. An extensive glossary of terms is included as the last section of the book.

This is a very reader-friendly text that provides a great deal of information about the foundations of research, research process and application of research findings to practice. Some people may more highly support books on research processes that are specific to a particular research method rather than having one all-encompassing research method book. However, I believe it is very valuable to have this type of comprehensive book available when reading, critiquing or conducting research. It can be efficient to have a detailed overview of information located within one book that is easily accessible when needed. Furthermore, when more detailed information is needed, process-specific books can be obtained.

I would highly recommend this book for dental hygiene educators, undergraduate and graduate dental hygiene students, and dental hygiene clinicians interested in better

understanding the research process and application and the literature appraisal process.

Sharon M. Compton
Dental Hygiene Program,
Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry,
University of Alberta,
2032 Dentistry/Pharmacy Centre,
Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada T6G 2N8
E-mail: scompton@ualberta.ca

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