



Associé au
Service de santé SCO
Associated with the
SCO Health Service

**SCO Health Service
and
the Institute on Health of the Elderly**

**Post Graduate Nursing
Research Fellowship in Gerontology**

August 2002

1. Introduction

Advanced nursing practice (ANP) is a term that describes an advanced level of nursing practice that maximizes the use of in-depth nursing knowledge and skill in meeting the health needs of clients. In the interim report on a National Framework for Advanced Nursing recently produced by the Canadian Nurses Association certain characteristics of ANP were outlined. The report maintains that ANP:

- contributes to the understanding and development of evidence-based nursing knowledge through involvement in research and the evaluation and utilization of relevant research findings.
- influences the practice of nurses by facilitating the integration of research-based knowledge into practice.
- involves planning, coordinating, implementing and evaluating programs to meet client needs through partnerships and intersectoral collaboration.
- involves the ability to critically analyse and influence health policy.
- reflects substantial autonomy and independence, with a high level of accountability.
- is expert and specialized practice. It is grounded in knowledge that comes from nursing theory and other theoretical foundations, experience and research.
- involves the deliberate, purposeful and integrated use of in-depth nursing knowledge, research and clinical expertise. It also involves the integration of knowledge from other disciplines into the practice of nursing.
- requires a depth and breadth of knowledge that enables the nurse to provide an ever-increasing range of strategies to meet the complex needs of clients.
- includes the ability to explain the theoretical, empirical, ethical and experiential foundations of nursing practice.

These characteristics of ANP are demonstrated in clinical practice, education, research and administration.

While completion of a graduate degree in nursing is currently considered the most effective means of acquiring the competencies required for ANP, it is also essential that novice advance nurse clinicians have additional opportunities to integrate previous clinical experience, education and research in the specialty setting. A research fellowship is an opportunity for the novice advance practice nurse to develop her/his capacity to effectively promote and integrate research into practice.

2. Goal

Year long post graduate studies for a registered nurse with a masters degree for the purpose of developing an Advanced Practice Nurse's capacity for ongoing nursing research in the field of Gerontology.

3. Fellowship Core objectives

On completion of the fellowship, fellows will be able to:

- effectively identify researchable questions in consultation with staff nurses, administrators and other key stakeholders.
- demonstrate grantsmanship skills;
- work with key decision makers to plan and implement strategies to enhance research uptake
- provide clinical leadership in policy development and promotion of evidence based practice.

4. Fellowship Summary

It is envisioned that the program will be tailored to the experience and learning needs of the fellow. Therefore specific time allotments regarding course work, research or scholarly endeavours, etc will not be made in advance of the fellowship

Domain	Content	Expected Outcomes	Resource
<i>Research</i>	Develop expertise in effectively identifying a researchable question in consultation with others. Complete a systematic literature review on a clinical practice problem. Incorporate the principles of grantmanship into a research protocol. Work with research teams to analyse research findings. Contribute to work in progress sessions.	To undertake a systematic literature review and to formulate a set of recommendations for clinical practice. To develop and submit a research protocol to an external peer-reviewed funding agency.	Fellowship Coordinator Research Assistant Advance Practice Nurses in gerontology and other key stakeholders. Institute faculty members
<i>Scholarly Activity</i>	Develop an effective plan for dissemination of research findings. Continuing education eg. directed studies. Developing writing skills for journal submissions, etc.	Presentations at regional, provincial and/or national conferences. Manuscript submitted to a peer review journal.	Fellowship Coordinator UofO Faculty Medicine and Health Sciences Institute faculty members
<i>Policy Development</i>	Exposure to mechanisms for policy development within a health science organization as well as with municipal, provincial or federal regulatory or legislative body.	Ability to articulate strategies for influencing policy development in gerontology nursing within an organization and the community at large. Prepare a position paper for submission to a nursing association, a provincial or federal regulatory or legislative body.	Fellowship Coordinator Administrators Exposure to other models / settings

5. Selection Criteria

- graduate of a masters program (minimum, with an undergrad in nursing)
- license to practice in the province of Ontario
- minimum of two years relevant clinical experience
- intent to continue to practice in the field of gerontology post fellowship

6. Roles/Responsibilities

President and Chief Scientist, Institute on Health of the Elderly:

- provide the initial funding for the fellowship initiative;
- explore feasibility for external support and future funding for the fellowship;
- provide links to other research initiatives within the Institute and mentorship in policy development.

Fellowship Coordinator - Dr. N. Edwards: (CHSRF/CIHR Nursing Chair)

- oversee the development and implementation of the fellowship;
- support and assist the Chief Executive Officer of the Institute to ensure appropriate resources;
- participate in preparation of the action plan for the fellowship;
- provide mentorship and ongoing guidance of clinical and scholarly activities;
- lead the selection process for the appointment of fellows;
- liaise with the School of Nursing, University of Ottawa, to obtain their support and active participation.

Chief Nursing Officer:

- participate in developing the action plan for the fellowship;
- ensure that the need for the fellowship is well understood internally and externally;
- participate in the selection process for appointment of fellows.

Faculty of the Institutes (Health of the Elderly, Palliative Care, Population Health):

- provide mentorship of scholarly and academic activities as required;

7. Human Resource Requirements

President & Chief Scientist, Institute	ongoing support and involvement
Fellowship Coordinator	regular ongoing coordination and participation
Chief Nursing Officer	representation on the working group, ongoing participation
Faculty, Institute	representation on the working group, ongoing participation
Staff, Institute	support to fellow as needed

8. Critical Success Factors

- formal support from the President and chief Scientist of the Institute;
- formal support and participation of the School of Nursing;
- formal support and participation of the faculty of the Institute;
- formal support and participation from the SCO Health Service;
- sustained funding for the fellowship;
- a well-designed program that is attractive to potential candidates;
- obtaining external research funding;
- implementation of dissemination strategies;
- availability of the above-mentioned resource requirements.
- formal evaluation reflecting evidence of a successful program.

9. Evaluation

The first year of the fellowship will be considered a pilot. A comprehensive evaluation based on the core objectives will be conducted by the fellow and faculty members involved. Modifications to the fellowship will be made based the results of the evaluation. Ongoing evaluation will be integrated into the design of the fellowship to ensure this process is carried through each year.

10. Budget

The financial requirements for the nursing fellowship program are outlined in the Table below:

Budget for Nursing Fellowship	
<i>Fellow</i>	\$50,000/year
<i>Office and Equipment</i>	Office space at SCO Health Service equipped with the following: telephone, Up-to-date computer and any necessary software, laser printer, access to facsimile and photocopier.
<i>Scholarly Activities</i>	\$500 for tuition support (if required refer to Appendix A \$1000 for expenses to one national/international conference for presentation of scholarly activity.
<i>Travel</i>	reimbursement for parking at the clinical sites

11. Appendix A - Examples of Courses Available at the University of Ottawa

School of Nursing

NSG 6115 Design of Multiple Interventions for Community Health
NSG 6160 Policy, Political Action and Change
NSG 6124 Complex Issues in the Nursing Care of Adults
NSG 6133 Decision Making in Clinical Practice

Department of Epidemiology & Community Medicine

EPI 5142 Health Services Evaluation
EPI 5188 Health Technology Assessment
EPI 5251 Measurement in Health
EPI 6178 Intervention Studies in Health Research
EPI 6188 Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis
EPI 6278 Advanced Clinical Trials
EPI 5181 Population Health Risk Assessment I

Faculty of Education

Edu 5204 Development, aims and organization of adult education
EDU 5206 Program planning in adult education
EDU 5253 Theories of learning applied to teaching
EDU 5262 Curriculum Design
EDU 5299 Program Evaluation
EDU 5399 Development of assessment and evaluation instruments

Theology (St. Paul's University)

THO 6333 Methods and approaches in contemporary ethics
THO 6334 Issues and debates in contemporary ethics
THO 6342 Ethics and health sciences