

RN Readiness for Evidence-Based Practice and Research
Lewis Gale Hospital Montgomery
Dyana C. Williams MSN, RN, CNOR

Nursing interest at this facility in evidence- based practice (EBP) projects and research studies has shown a discernable decline within the past year when compared to the projects and research produced during the inception of the Nursing Research Council and the hospital's initial Magnet designation journey. The purpose of this study is to examine the nursing staffs' perceptions and understanding of EBP and research. Literature shows that understanding nursing perceptions regarding their readiness to use and implement EBP is a vital component to fostering a culture that is passionate for research, innovation, and acceptance to change. EBP and research readiness is also critical to maintaining progressive and appropriate patient care, as well as consistent positive patient outcomes. Nurse leaders have a duty to place significance in the roles, accountability, and voice of their staff nurses and to empower these nurses to advance in their own nursing practices. This can be accomplished through participation in EBP and research.

This study surveyed a convenience non-probability sample and utilized a quantitative approach supported by a descriptive design. The data collection tool was a modified online survey developed from the published work of Dr. Diane Provikoff. The survey was limited to only registered nurses. Information collected helped to clarify the readiness of registered nurses at this facility to use EBP and research in their own professional practices. It helped determine what barriers existed for our nurses to feel comfortable participating in EBP and identified a need for guidance and support from nurse leaders.