

NURSING+
MIDWIFERY

NURSING RESEARCH STRATEGY 2021-23

Center for Nursing Research in the Western Health Partnership



Western Health



INTRODUCTION

The Western Health Partnership was established in 2014 and drives collaborative clinical research that provides Western Health staff and students with the opportunity to engage in clinically focussed, multidisciplinary research and training across acute, chronic, rehabilitation, and community healthcare settings. The Partnership is committed to improve patient safety outcomes, patient experience of healthcare, and support the role of nurses and midwives in their workforce development, with the ultimate aim to deliver world class health outcomes for our large and diverse community in Melbourne's west.

The Centre for Nursing Research activated are underpinned and aligns with the Western Health Research Strategy 2021 – 2023, Western Health Strategic Plan 2015-2020 as well as Nursing and Midwifery Strategic Workforce Plan 2019-2021, Best Care and Right Care plans and Deakin University's Quality and Patient Safety (QPS) Strategic Research Centre and Institute of Health Transformation (IHT).

The Centre provides academic and professional leadership to staff and students and recognises the importance of combining expertise from industry, community and academia to inform the quality, best, right and safe healthcare delivery. A defining feature of the Centre is that it fosters a rich diversity of activities in health services research with the aim to build capacity and enhance the research culture at Western Health with benefits for patients and their families, staff, students and academics.

Vision: to be nationally and internationally recognised as a centre of nursing research excellence

The Centre has four key objectives:

1. Pursue a program of research that supports the core clinical activities of Western Health and is situated within the QPS research domain within the IHT of the Faculty of Health, Deakin University. Our three overarching research priorities are:
 - a. Safety and risk management in support of best and safe care
 - b. Patient and carer engagement and experiences
 - c. Healthcare workforce and service delivery.
2. Provide leadership and mentorship for the professional development of clinical and academic staff through research training by building staff capabilities from clinical skills through to leadership.
3. Establish a public profile of the Centre that promotes its activities and research outcomes and highlights the expertise of its researchers as leaders in their field.
4. Build collaborative partnerships with professional organisations, consumer organisations, primary care, national and international tertiary institutions and community groups associated with Western Health.

Safety and risk management in support of best and safe care

Best Care (patients):

- I am seen and treated as a person
- I receive help, treatment and information when I need it & in co-ordinated way
- I receive care that makes me feel better
- I feel safe

Best Care: (front line staff)

- I communicate with patients and their families and am sensitive to their needs & preferences
- I am active team player and look for ways to do things better
- I am competent in what I do and motivated to provide the best care and services possible
- I keep patient from harm

Best Care (Managers & Senior Clinicians):

- I engage with and put patients first when making decisions
- I look for ways to support staff to work efficiently and as part of a team
- I guide, engage and support staff to provide best clinical care
- I promote a culture of safety

Supporting Western Health Strategic Directions, Western Health Research Road Map, Best Care and Safe Care Frameworks:

Strategic Aim 1: *Growing & improving the delivery of safe, high quality care*

Objective 1: Define and deliver service to better meet the needs of our diverse community

Objective 1.2: Identify gaps and pursue new service delivery opportunities.

Objective 3: Undertake research and quality improvement activities as part of everyday practice

Objective 3.2: Support and drive research activity to improve the translation of evidence to best practice service delivery

Research Road Map:

Aim 1: *Increase awareness of the importance of research to underpin best care*

- embed strategies such as increasing mechanisms to share best practice across disciplines and practice groups
- research as an integral part of continuing professional development

Outcomes aligned with WH Research Road Map:

Leading translational research in Nursing and Midwifery

Measure of success aligned with WH Research Road Map:

- Quality and Number of publications
- Type and funding value of grants
- Increase number of Quality improvement projects

Patient and carer engagement and experiences

Best Care (patients):

- I am seen and treated as a person
- -I receive help, treatment and information when I need it & in co-ordinated way
- -I receive care that makes me feel better
- -I feel safe

Best Care: (front line staff)

- I communicate with patients and their families and am sensitive to their needs & preferences
- -I am active team player and look for ways to do things better
- -I am competent in what I do and motivated to provide the best care and services possible
- I keep patient from harm

Best Care (Managers & Senior Clinicians):

- I engage with and put patients first when making decisions
- I look for ways to support staff to work efficiently and as part of a team
- -I guide, engage and support staff to provide best clinical care
- I promote a culture of safety

Best Care (Executive and Board):

- I oversee the development, implementation and ongoing improvement of organisation-wide systems supporting Best care

Supporting Western Health Strategic Directions, Western Health Research Road Map, Best Care and Safe Care Frameworks:

Strategic Aim 1: *Growing & improving the delivery of safe, high quality care*

Objective 3: Undertake research and quality improvement activities as part of everyday practice

Strategic Aim 4: *Being socially responsible & using resources sustainably*

Objective 2: in partnership, develop health services profile and system of collaboration for western Melbourne

Objective 2.2: Support growth across the provider network to better meet the needs of the catchment

Research Road Map:

Action 5: *Enhance community and consumer engagement*

- Establish a mechanism to enhance consumer involvement in the research process, including engagement of consumer representatives in research activities
- Explore the opportunity to capture consumer involvement in research activities using surveys (eg patient experience survey) or electronic records.
- Identify and pursue partnership opportunities that enable greater community involvement

Outcomes aligned with WH Research Road Map:

Leading translational research in Nursing and Midwifery

Measure of success aligned with WH Research Road Map:

- Quality and numbers of publications
- Type and funding value of grants
- Increase number of Quality improvement projects

Healthcare workforce and service delivery

Best Care: (front line staff)

- I communicate with patients and their families and am sensitive to their needs & preferences
- -I am active team player and look for ways to do things better
- i am competent in what I do and motivated to provide the best care and services possible
- I keep patient from harm

Best Care (Managers & Senior Clinicians):

- I engage with and put patients first when making decisions
- I look for ways to support staff to work efficiently and as part of a team
- I guide, engage and support staff to provide best clinical care
- I promote a culture of safety
- I promote best clinical am active team player and look for ways to do things better
- I am competent in what I do and motivated to provide the best care and services possible
- I keep patient from harm

Best Care (Executive and Board):

- I oversee the development, implementation and ongoing improvement of organisation-wide systems supporting Best care

Supporting Western Health Strategic Directions, Western Health Research Road Map, Best Care and Safe Care Frameworks:

Strategic Aim 1: Growing & improving the delivery of safe, high quality care

Objective 3: Undertake research and quality improvement activities as part of everyday practice
3.2. Support and drive research activity to improve the translation of evidence to best practice service delivery
Strategic Aim 4: Being socially responsible and using resources sustainable
Objective 2: In partnership, develop health services profile and system collaboration for western Melbourne

Strategic Aim 5: Valuing and empowering our people

Objective 1: Build a flexible workforce that can respond rapidly to the changing health service needs
Objective 5.1: Build competency and capability of those in critical job roles and functions to realise our strategic priorities
Objective 5.2: Support capability building through providing equitable access to training and education
Objective 3: Improve the health and wellbeing of our staff
Objective 5.3.1: Engage people in in development and implementation of a safer work environment including health services infrastructure and wellbeing initiatives.

Research Road Map:

Action 1: Increase awareness of the importance of research to underpin best care

- embed research as an integral part of continuing professional development

Action 4: Expand research capacity and foster innovation

- provide access to services to support research activities such as analysis and interpretation
- Foster innovation and support the development of key technologies solutions that will influence research at Western Health, including EMR.

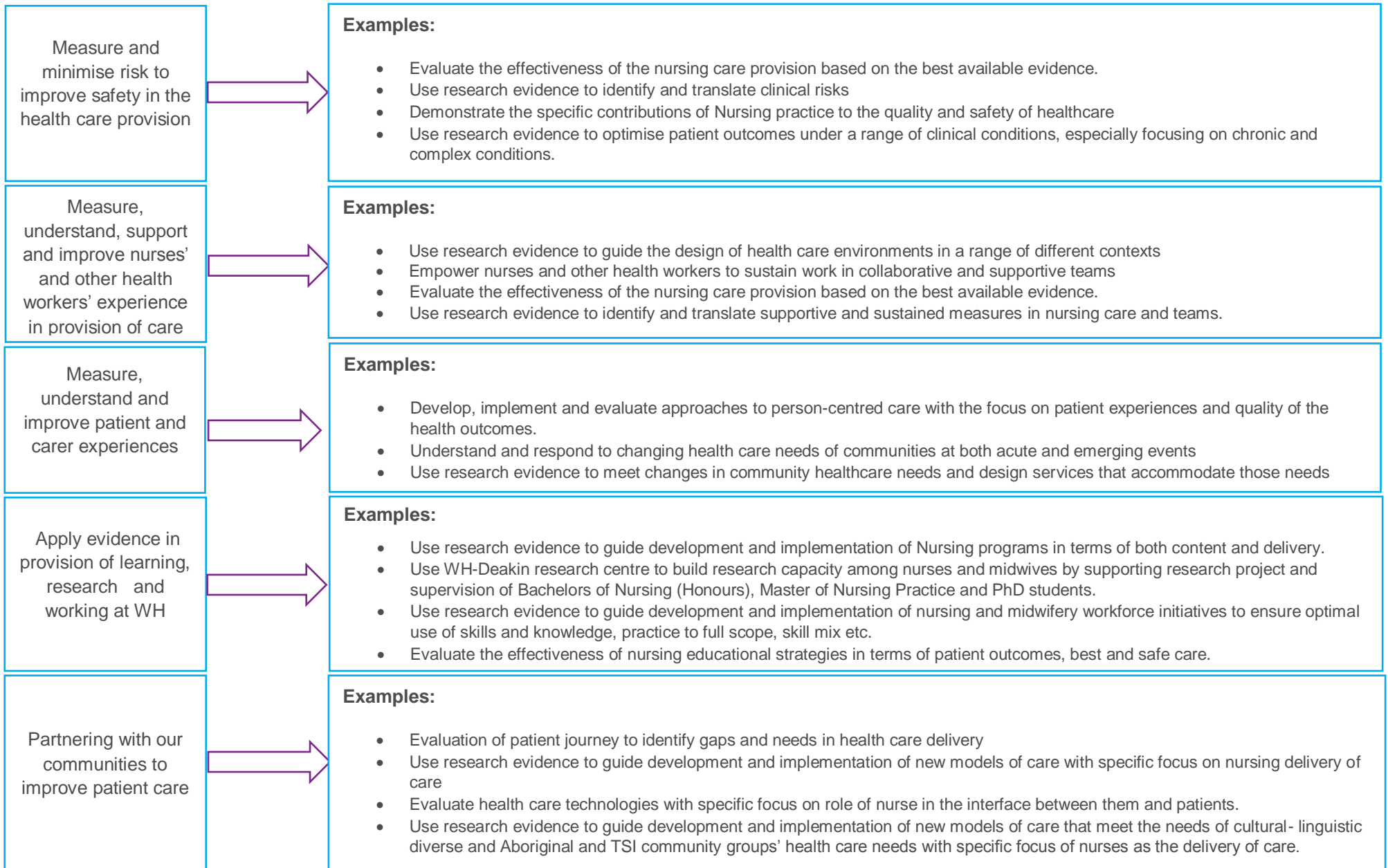
Outcomes aligned with WH Research Road Map:

Partnership that provide service where we best meet the care needs

Measure of success aligned with WH Research Road Map:

- Improvement in system-wide service gaps
- Increased levels of submissions and funding for collaborative projects
- Increase number of Quality improvement projects

Nursing Research at Western Health focuses on improving patient experiences and outcomes and contribute significantly to building research capacity in nursing at Western Health. The strategic activities areas in the Centre are:



Goals and Key Performances for the Centre research activities for 2021-2023

Short Term Goals 1 Year (12 months)	Measured by
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure research outputs on completed projects. 	<p>Collaborate with WH and Deakin staff and build on existing research within nursing at WH into either publications or new research projects. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Together Project • Falls project • Electronic Medical Record Project • COVID-19 related research
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit research funding applications to professional, philanthropic and government organisations to increase funding for research at Western Health. 	<p>Submission of at least 2 Category One and 3 Category 2-4 external competitive grants by December 2021</p> <p>Continue development of a research program in 'chronic and complex condition' and 'gender and health' aligned with the Centre's and WH's research priority areas.</p> <p>Continue to build research capacity among nurses by supporting research project and supervision of Bachelors of Nursing (Honours), Master of Nursing Practice and PhD students.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence new research relevant to the organisational needs of Western Health. 	<p>Participate in collaborative research across major health services in Western Health and in Metropolitan Melbourne facilitated by the partnership model of QPS and IHT.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and develop staff capacity. 	<p>Build capacity by recruiting Honours, Master and PhD students to Western Health staff and Deakin University.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit and train research students from Western Health staff, Deakin University and externally. 	<p>Encourage students and interested staff to engage in the Centre's research activities.</p> <p>Attend, participate and document conferences with the aim to publish the presentation in peer-reviewed papers.</p>
	<p>Visibility of the centre by consultation, workshop facilitation and engagement with professional and consumer groups for example</p>

- **Develop research collaborations with key stakeholders in other health services, consumer groups, primary health care and professional organisations via QPS and IHT collaborators**

Nationally: Australian Diabetes Educator Association, Australian Diabetes Society, Australasian Diabetes in Pregnancy Society, Diabetes Victoria, Australian College of Nursing, Victorian Hospital Association, Western Alliance, Australian Association of Disease Management, local and national Aboriginal and TSI Health groups, DHHS, Royal Adelaide Hospital and QPS partnering health services.

Priority:

- Developing a research program in Chronic and Complex Care in collaboration with WH staff, Primary Health Care, local governments, and consumer groups
- in collaboration with WH staff and Aboriginal and TSI working towards a research program in Aboriginal Health at WH.

- **Raise profile of nursing research within Western Health, through dissemination to key stakeholders and through international research presentations and publications**

Internationally: Danish Diabetes Academy, Scan-TRICC, GREAT Affiliated universities (Southern Denmark University, Odense university Hospital, University of Copenhagen)

- **Disseminate research findings through refereed publications, research reports and presentations**

Ongoing core activities with the specific aim of at least 15 peer-reviewed publications in 2021 – 2022

Middle Term Goals 1-2 years (13 months – 24 months)

Measured by

- **Continue to develop an international research profile that enhances the reputation and activities of the partnership.**
- **Disseminate research findings through refereed publications, research reports and presentations**
- **Provide advice, leadership and expertise for nursing practice, education and professional organisations.**
- **Consolidate already established international links and further international collaborative research**

Lead submission of at least one Category 1 grant with international collaborators by 2022.

Submission of at least five Category 2-4 grant applications

Continue to build research capacity in nursing and midwifery by increase recruiting at Honours, Master and PhD students from Western Health staff and Deakin University, especially in relation to the Centre's research priority areas.

Attract post-doctoral fellows to our center for mentoring (Deakin Post Doctoral Fellowship, NHMRC Clinical Research Fellowship)

Consolidation of a research program in chronic and complex condition aligned with the Centre's three research priority areas.

Attend, participate and document conferences with the aim to publish the presentation in peer-reviewed papers.

Two research applications submissions with international partners by end of 2022

Long Term Goals 3 years (36 months)

Measured by

- **Conduct programmatic research that makes a substantive contribution to patient and career engagement and experiences, best and safe clinical nursing practice, health service and delivery;**
- **Provide mentorship and training to clinicians in research appraisal, implementation of research into practice and research methods;**
- **Consolidate interdisciplinary and international research collaborations in chronic and complex conditions.**

International recognised research program in chronic and complex conditions aligned with the Centre's three research priority areas. (use of technologies in management of these conditions)

Attract high-calibre researchers into our mentorship program and link into our research collaboration.

Expansion of research capacity by increase staff numbers and consultancies activities.

Provide a full program of research training for clinical and academic staff, especially nurses at WH.

Lead a multidisciplinary collaborative research program between WH and primary health care to better service and health outcomes for people with chronic and complex conditions in the Western part of Victoria

Documents underpinning Nursing Research Strategy 2021-2023

