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Does EBP affect the Delivery of Nursing Care in US Hospitals?

Michaela Daley

INTRODUCTION

- Evidence-based practice calls for nurses and other clinicians to redesign patient-care that is increasingly efficient, effective and safe (Lee, 2015, p. 534)
- EBP is the transformation of knowledge into clinically applicable care processes
- Serves as guide for clinicians in providing best quality of care (Lee, 2015, p. 534)
- “Clinical decision-making that considers the best available evidence” (Cardosa, 2021, p. 1)

Five Steps:

1. Translation of uncertainty into answerable question
2. Search and retrieval of evidence
3. Critical appraisal of evidence for validity and clinical importance
4. Application of evidence to practice
5. Evaluation of performance



(Cardosa, 2021, p. 2)

SIGNIFICANCE

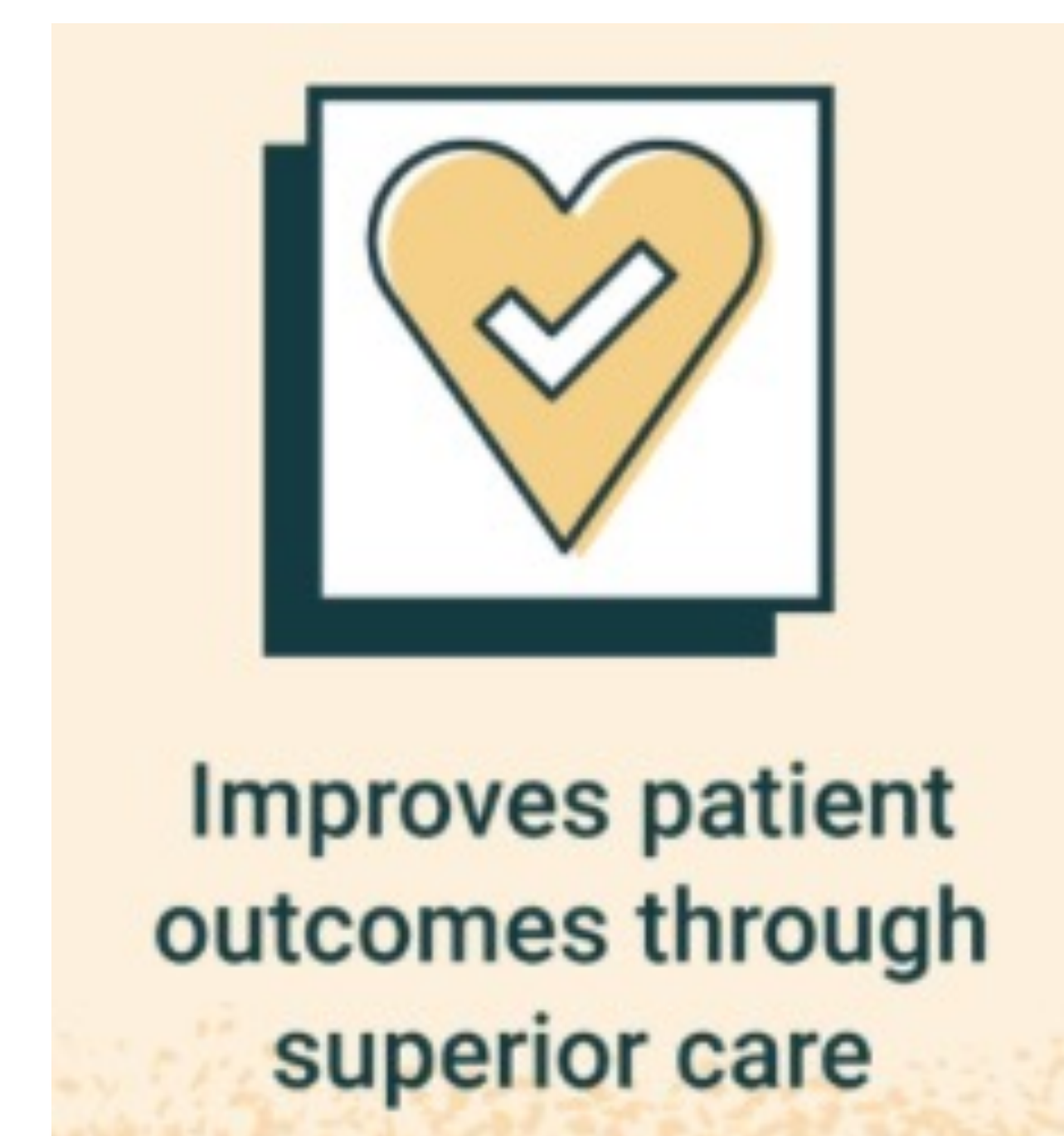
- Promotes and values patient-centered care to improve patient outcomes (Chen, 2020, p. 7)
- Individualizes patient care and establishes “relevant routines” (Chen, 2020, p. 7)
- “EPB ensures...health care yields maximum returns” (Lee, 2015, p. 534)
- Prevents unsafe practices and is used in over 90% of all nursing practice (Cardosa, 2021, p. 1)
- Improves knowledge level and skill levels of those utilizing EBP (Chen, 2020, p. 7)
- Essential safeguard against pseudoscience which is a, “lack of connection with basic or applied research” (Lee, 2015, p. 535)
- One study found a significant increase in learning after implementation of EBP training ($p < 0.001$) (Chen, 2020, p. 6)

POSITION STATEMENT

I believe that EBP positively affects the delivery of nursing care in US hospitals because it emphasizes patient safety, prevents unsafe nursing practices, and improves the quality of nursing care.

SUPPORT FOR POSITION

- Streamlines patient care
- Emphasis on patient-centered care
- Incorporates latest research findings
- Requires nurses to maintain critical thinking skills



(Lee, 2015, p. 537)

IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

- Nurses need to continually stay up to date
- Some specialties lack EBP such as psychiatry (Lee, 2015, p. 535)
- Research and practice gaps (Lee, 2015, p. 535)
- Takes average of 17 years for research to be translated into practice (Duquesne, 2020)
- Clinicians need to ensure EBP focus on needs of patient and not personal beliefs (Duquesne, 2020)
- Must be able to critically think which is, “a thinking skill consisting of the evaluation of arguments” (Duquesne, 2020)

CONCLUSION

- EBP is a necessary systematic approach to improving patient outcomes within hospitals in the US
- Current research supports continued education emphasizing importance of EBP (Duquesne, 2020)
- Role of the nurse is to stay up to date on current EBP
- EBP is an integrated aspect of nursing, so there is emphasis on focusing further research on quality improvement (Duquesne, 2020)

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