

Information Letter

Delineation of Specialized and Advanced Practice Nursing Roles

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Before you give your consent to volunteer for this study, it is important that you read the following information and ask as many questions as necessary to be sure you understand what you will be asked to do.

Investigators:

Local Principal Investigator:

Dr. Denise Bryant-Lukosius
School of Nursing
McMaster University

Post-Doctoral Fellow:

Dr. Krista Jokiniemi
School of Nursing
McMaster University

The other research team members include: Dr. Kelley Kilpatrick, University of Montreal; Dr. Ruth Martin-Misener, Dalhousie University; Dr. Joan Tranmer, Queen's University; Josette Roussel, Canadian Nurses Association; and Marcia Carr, Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Canada.

Funding Source: This project has not received any specific funding.

Why Is This Research Being Done?

The results of this study will provide information to differentiate nurses in Specialized Nursing, Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), and Nurse Practitioner (NP) roles. This information will be used to support evidence-informed decision-making about the optimal development and use of these roles within the healthcare system.

The data collected will be used to:

- Identify and compare the practice activities of nurses in specialized, CNS, and NP roles in relation to established competencies.
- Identify and compare the time nurses in Specialized, CNS, and NP roles spend in recognized domains of advanced practice.

What Will My Responsibilities Be If I Take Part In The Study?

If you volunteer to participate in this study, we will ask you to complete a questionnaire electronically at a time that is convenient for you. It should take about 5 to 15 minutes for you to complete the survey.

What Are The Possible Risks Or Discomforts?

Although there are no known harms from participation in the research, if responding to the questions causes you to become upset you are welcome to stop the survey or skip any question you feel you are unable to answer.

What Are The Possible Benefits For Me And/Or For Society?

This research explores the roles of Specialized Registered Nurses, CNSs, and NPs in order to determine how these roles may complement and be optimally utilized within healthcare teams. The findings from this study will help clarify and inform: role definitions and competencies; education program curricula; regulation and credentialing; and healthcare policies to support the optimal implementation of these roles.

What Information Will Be Kept Private, and What If I Want To Withdraw?

Your decision to participate, or not, or withdraw from the study at any time is strictly confidential and will not be shared with any member organization, your employer, or colleagues. If you withdraw from the study, information that you have given will be used for data analysis, unless you ask that it be purged from the data set. Any data you provide will be stored on a secure server and will not be associated to you, your name, or your e-mail address. All data collected via this survey will be analyzed and presented in aggregate form and no individual responses will ever be shared so individuals can never be identified by their responses. If you choose to withdraw, please contact Dr. Krista Jokiniemi whose contact information is found on Page 2 of this document.

Will There Be Any Costs, and if so, Will I Be Compensated?

There are no costs associated with your participation and no compensation will be provided.

What Is The Voluntary Nature Of My Participation?

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your choice of whether or not to participate will not influence your future relations with your member organization or employer. At any particular point in the study, you may refuse to answer any particular question or stop participation altogether.

Ethics clearance has been received from the Hamilton Integrated Research Ethics Board.

If I Have Any Questions Or Problems, Whom Can I Call?

If you have any questions about the research, please contact:

Denise Bryant-Lukosius, RN PhD
Associate Professor, School of Nursing &
Dept. of Oncology, McMaster University
Director, Canadian Centre for Advanced
Practice Nursing Research (CCAPNR)
HSC 3N28G
1280 Main Street West Hamilton,
Hamilton ON, L8S 4L8
E-Mail: bryantl@mcmaster.ca
Phone: 905.525.9140 x. 22408

Krista Jokiniemi RN PhD
Post-Doctoral Fellow, School of Nursing,
McMaster University
HSC 3N28A
1280 Main Street West Hamilton,
Hamilton ON, L8S 4L8
E-Mail: krista.jokiniemi@ufi.fi
Phone: 905-525-9140 x. 22408

If you have questions regarding your rights as a human subject and participant in this study, you may contact the Office of the Chair of the Hamilton Integrated Research Ethics Board at 905-521-2100 x. 42013.