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Mary Ryder Edith Cowan University, Ryder.mary@gmail.com

Elisabeth Jacob

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Exploring how Nurse Practitioners implement Leadership & Research

Mary Ryder, RANP, MSc Nursing (Advanced Practice^{1,2;} A/Prof. Elisabeth Jacob², PhD; A/Prof Joyce Hendricks2,³, PhD 1. University College Dublin, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland. 2 Edith Cowan University, Western Australia. 3 Central Queensland University, Queensland, Australia.

Introduction: The original concept of the NP role was to expand nursing practice in order to provide high quality, accessible healthcare to patients. This placed NPs at the crux of changes to healthcare delivery. Implementing these changes requires leadership. Research demonstrates the effects of these changes to healthcare delivery and contributes to healthcare knowledge from the nursing profession.

Aims & Objectives:

To explore the ways in which Irish and Australian Nurse Practitioners (NP) implement leadership and research in their roles. To explore how NPs implement leadership and research in nursing and to explore if there is a difference in how leadership and research are demonstrated between NP in Ireland and Australia.

Methods: A qualitative inductive research methodology, using interpretative descriptive approach. Inductive methodology was used to bring meaning to the phenomena through the subjective views of participants. Semi-structured interviews were recorded and transcribed verbatim. Data analysis used Braun and Clarke thematic analysis method.



Conclusion: NPs are clinical leaders focused on improving healthcare delivery for patient populations. The NP role is misunderstood. NPs lack confidence to be independently research active. Research by NPs requires support from nurses in academia. The NP role is similar in Ireland and Australia.