

6-8-2023

The Impact of Role Perception Gaps Among Nurses: An Integrative Review

Anita Fennessey, DrNP, RN, CNE

Follow this and additional works at: <https://jdc.jefferson.edu/nursingposters>



Part of the [Nursing Commons](#)

[Let us know how access to this document benefits you](#)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Jefferson Digital Commons. The Jefferson Digital Commons is a service of Thomas Jefferson University's [Center for Teaching and Learning \(CTL\)](#). The Commons is a showcase for Jefferson books and journals, peer-reviewed scholarly publications, unique historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools. The Jefferson Digital Commons allows researchers and interested readers anywhere in the world to learn about and keep up to date with Jefferson scholarship. This article has been accepted for inclusion in College of Nursing Posters by an authorized administrator of the Jefferson Digital Commons. For more information, please contact: JeffersonDigitalCommons@jefferson.edu.

The Impact of Role Perception Gaps Among Nurses: An Integrative Review

Anita Fennessey DrNP, RN, CNE

Thomas Jefferson University College of Nursing

Background & Significance

- Inadequate communication has consistently been indicated as a contributor to adverse events in all areas of healthcare (Paltved et al, 2017).
- Factors related to individual, team, work environment, organizational and institutional aspects have also been shown to influence patient safety, with increased chances of causing patient harm (Rezende da Silva dos Santos, Campos & Celestino da Silva, 2018).
- Efficient communication among healthcare members is considered a contributing element in promoting a culture of safety (Rezende da Silva dos Santos, Campos & Celestino da Silva, 2018).
- Errors in communication can compromise continuity of care and place patient safety at risk. These errors have been shown as contributors to the occurrence of adverse events (Rezende da Silva dos Santos, Campos & Celestino da Silva, 2018).
- Relational Coordination Theory provided a framework correlating how superior communication reinforced by high-quality associations such as shared goals and mutual trust and respect can enable nurses to successfully coordinate care leading to positive patient outcomes (Havens, Vasey, Gittell & Lin, 2020).



Research Question

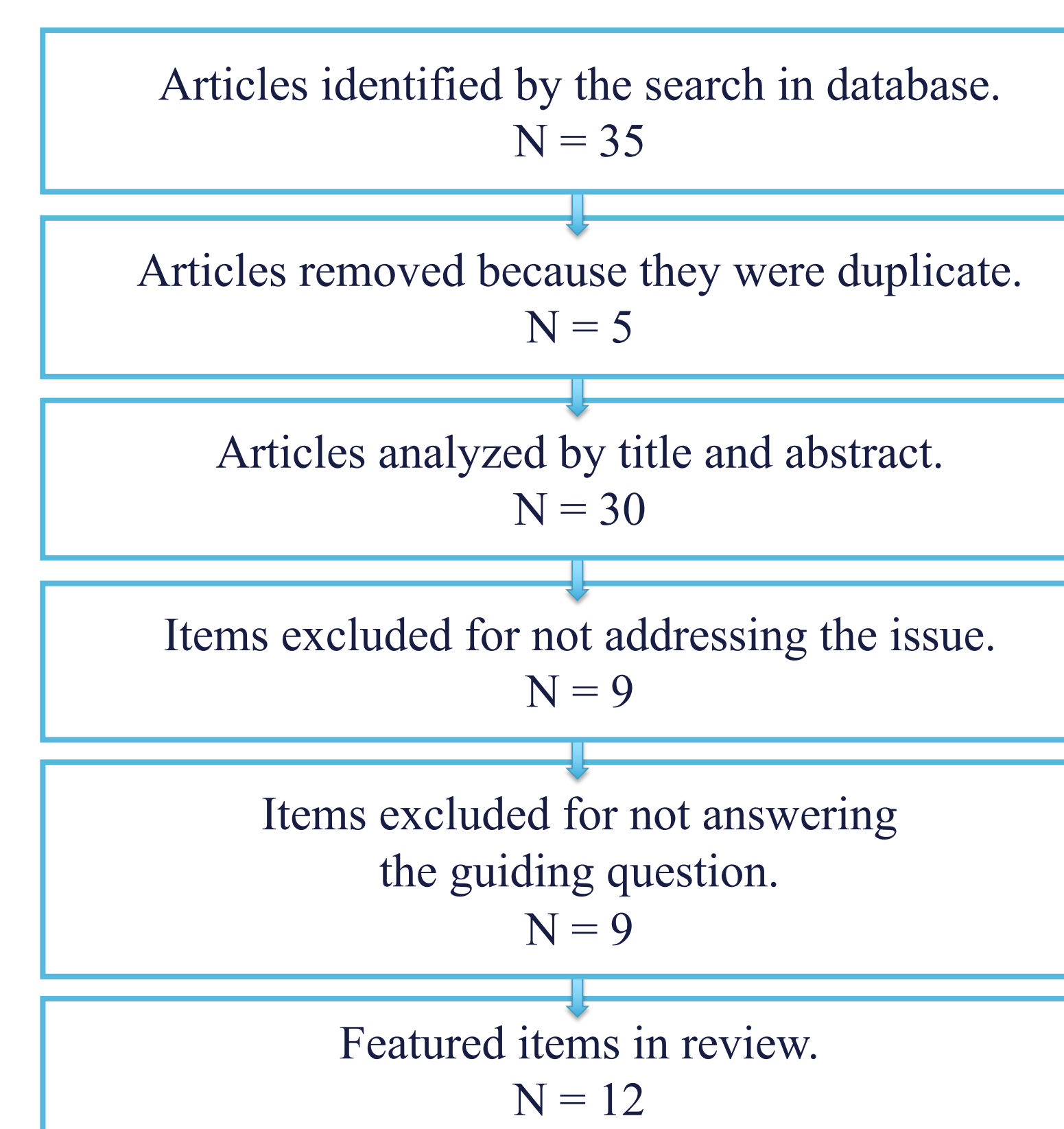
Is there is a correlation between communication, continuity of care during patient transfers and adverse events with role perception gaps between ED and ICU nurses?



Methodology

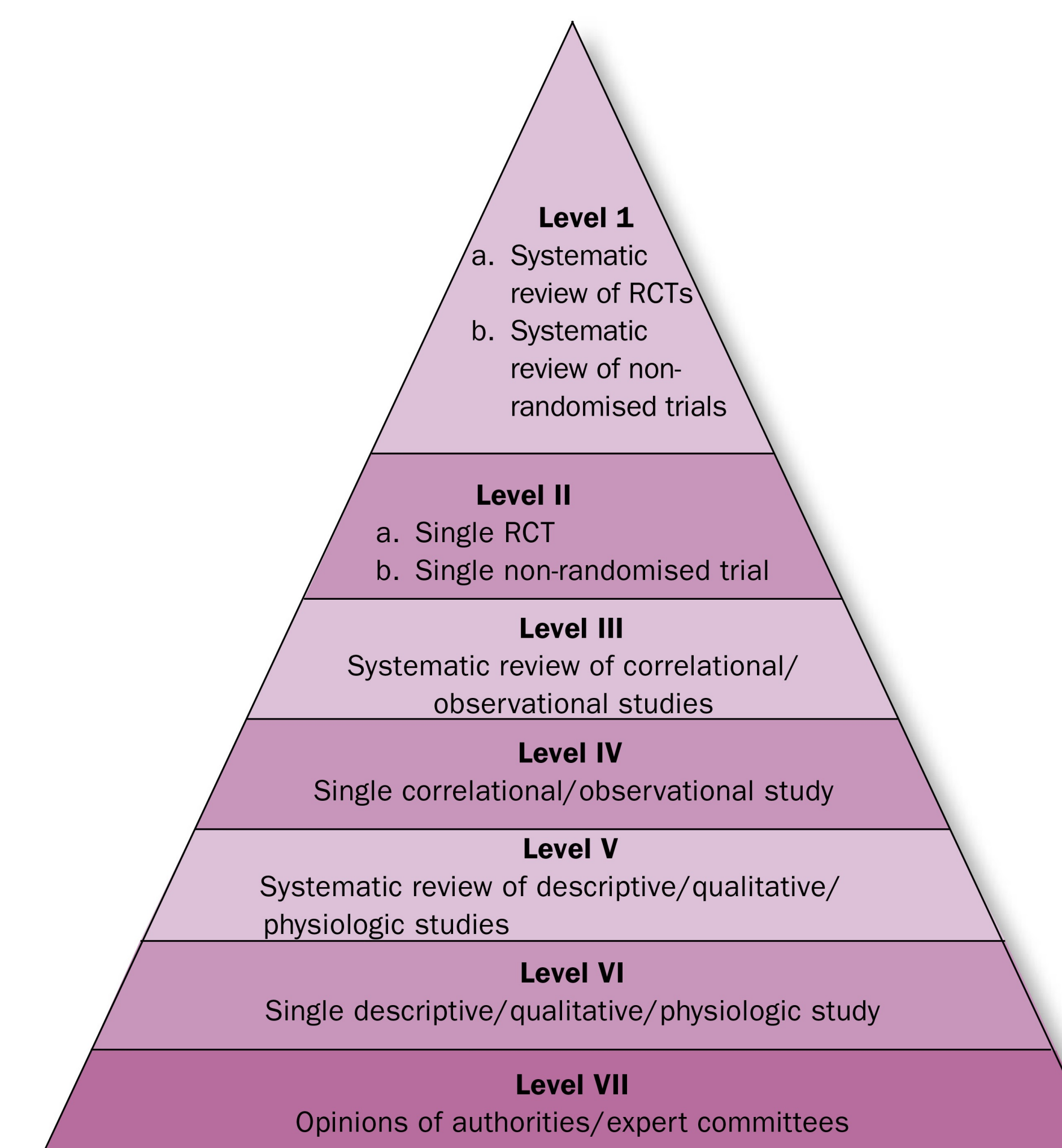
- Literature Review was systematically conducted by searching the following databases: PubMed, CINAHL and MEDLINE
- Keywords utilized were “nurse to nurse hand-off”, interprofessional communication, “role perception between ICU and ED nurses”, “patient transfers”, “communication between ICU and ED nurses” and “patient safety”.
- Search articles were confined to the years 2010 to 2020 and availability of full-text.
- Inclusion criteria included articles discussing interprofessional and nurse to nurse communication with emphasis on communication between emergency and critical care nurses especially as related to patient transfers and adverse consequences.
- The original search identified 35 articles, 5 being duplicates and 18 articles were eliminated for not meeting inclusion criteria. Articles that were excluded were not related to the topic or did not answer the guiding research question.

Literature Search Flow Diagram



Results

- Thirty-five articles were initially identified; Twelve included in final sample. Of the 12 articles, two were level 1, four were level 3, two were level IV, one was level V and three were level VI.
- Level of evidence rated using evidence pyramid published by Polit and Beck (2014).



Literature Synthesis

- Patient transfers which involve the physical movement of patients, along with the transfer of their care-related information is an area where increased errors have occurred resulting in critical incidents or adverse events (Abraham, Burton & Gordon, 2020; Jung-Won, Hye-Young, & Youn-Jung, 2020)
- Poorly coordinated handovers between ER and ICU nurses as found with transfer of patients diagnosed with Sepsis has been linked to delay in treatment and prolonged hospitalization. (Tortosa –Alted et al, 2021; Mattheus-Kraemer et al, 2016)
- Transfer of information, responsibility and control between sending and receiving clinicians is key to effective management of critically-ill patients (O'Connor, 2020; Stelfox, 2017).z

Conclusions & Implications

- This integrative review provided significant evidence of how effective communication impacts continuity of care focusing mostly on transfer of patients from clinical units.
- It also helped to further delineate how these concepts are related to adverse patient outcomes. However, this review was unable to provide sufficient research related to role perceptions of nurses especially as related to ICU and ER nurses
- The implications of this review are significant in that it provided evidence that there is a possible correlation between role perceptions among nurses and high-quality relationships with exceptional patient care and as a result improved patient outcomes.
- Consequently, what also came to light was a need for further research regarding how specialized nurses perceive each other’s role be it the ER nurse to the ICU nurse or the ICU nurse to the Medical-Surgical nurse and the specific impact of these role perceptions.

References available upon request
Anita.fennessey@Jefferson.edu