



# IDENTIFY THE FACTORS INFLUENCING NURSE'S PARTICIPATION IN CLINICAL RESEARCH AND AWARENESS ON ETHICAL ASPECTS

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## Abstract

Ethics is philosophical inquiry of moral life and deals with the dynamics of decision making. Research ethics involve requirements on daily work, the protection of dignity of subjects and the publication of information in the research. There are possible conflicts that nurses have to deal with, when undertaking or participating in research, hence the study was undertaken to identify the factors influencing nurse's participation in clinical research and awareness on ethical aspects. Non - experimental, descriptive study design with explorative survey approach was used. 50 nursing professionals were selected with purposive sampling techniques who were working in Pravara Rural Hospital, and PIMS (DU), College of Nursing, Loni (Bk). The tool used was semi-structured questionnaire. The results showed that the common factors that influence the ability of nurse's participation in research were areas of work (88%), inadequate fund (76%), inadequate resources and work load (64%). Awareness on ethical aspects of research showed that, the overall mean awareness score was (18.28±2.9) which was 60.9%, indicated nurses had average level of awareness. However, the nursing professionals working in hospitals and senior grade nurses had less awareness than others. A significant association was found between awareness level and socio demographic variables like occupation and working area ( $p \leq 0.05$ ). The study revealed average awareness on ethical aspects of research among nurses.

**Keywords:** Clinical research, Ethical aspects and Nurses.

## Introduction

Nurses constitute the largest group of health care providers and their care influences patient outcomes. Research driven evidence based practice is a hallmark of professional nursing practice and high quality patient care. **Burns N and Grove S L (2002)<sup>(1)</sup>**

Research is a systematic way of asking questions, a systematic method of enquiry. Research is necessary for developing nursing body of knowledge. Nurses use a wide range of theoretical and practical knowledge in their work. Nurses need a considerable amount of new knowledge to provide the appropriate level of care to their patient, thereby improving quality of nursing care. **Case B (2004)<sup>(2)</sup>**. In undertaking research, certain ethical principles are used as a framework to guide the researcher through the research process and its subsequent use. These principles help to ensure the highest possible standards in every aspect of research and must be adhered to by nurses. **Hockey L (1996)<sup>(3)</sup>**.

Number of research studies have identified barriers that interfere with the ability of nurses to do research. Barriers identified include lack of accessibility, poor organizational support, lack of support from colleagues, limited knowledge of research methods, and lack of access to technology and lack of time. **Currier S 2009<sup>(4)</sup>**. Evidence suggests that Registered Nurses have less knowledge about Ethical Committee, ethical issues in research and less access to resources in the workplace. **Melnyk B M. et.al (2004)<sup>(5)</sup>**.

Ethical issues, conflicting values and ambiguity in decision making are recurrently emerging from literature review on nursing research. Because of lack of clarity in ethical standards, nurses must develop an awareness of these issues and an effective framework to deal with problems involving human rights. There is a need to provide some guidance on how research is performed with consideration of value system and moral code. Ethics in research, must receive special attention in nursing curriculum to prepare future nurses with mission