

Domain 4: Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline

Sub-competency	Progression Indicators (Observable Behaviors)	
	Developing	Developed (Competent)
4.1 Advance the scholarship of nursing.		
4.1a Demonstrate an understanding of different approaches to scholarly practice.	Describe research methods. Compare and contrast different scholarly practices.	Use evaluation criteria to appraise literature.
4.1b Demonstrate application of different levels of evidence.	Explain the different levels of evidence. Categorize publications by level of evidence.	Apply different levels of evidence to clinical decision-making. Appraise and synthesize evidence from multiple levels.
4.1c Apply theoretical framework(s)/models in practice.	Identify key theoretical frameworks/models relevant to nursing practice. Describe how specific theoretical frameworks/models apply to clinical practice.	Provide a rationale for integrating chosen theoretical frameworks/models into plans of care. Evaluate the effectiveness of theoretical frameworks/models in practice through reflective practice.
4.1d Demonstrate an understanding of basic elements of the research process.	List the essential elements of the research process. Explain the steps of the research process.	Design a simple research study, including all essential elements.
4.1e Participate in scholarly inquiry as a team member.	Share expertise and listen to diverse perspectives in group discussions about scholarly inquiry.	Make meaningful contributions to enhance the quality of team-based scholarly projects or assignments.
4.1f Evaluate research.	Identify key components of research. Critique research for strengths and weaknesses.	Synthesize findings from research to draw reasonable conclusions. Evaluate research in a specific area of interest.
4.1g Communicate scholarly findings.	Summarize findings in written or oral formats.	Present findings in peer group settings.

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4.1h Apply and critically evaluate advanced knowledge in a defined area of nursing practice.	Describe advanced knowledge relevant to a specific area of nursing practice. Apply specialized knowledge to clinical practice.	Evaluate the application of specialized knowledge in practice. Synthesize specialized knowledge to develop innovative solutions or improvements in practice.
4.1i Engage in scholarship to advance health.	Participate in scholarly activities like discussions and journal clubs. Design scholarly projects or initiatives aimed at advancing health.	Lead a scholarly project or initiative, demonstrating the ability to advance health outcomes. Communicate findings from scholarly activities contributing to the advancement of health.
4.1j Discern appropriate applications of quality improvement, research, and evaluation methodologies.	Differentiate various quality improvement, research, and evaluation methodologies. Apply appropriate methodologies to address specific clinical or research questions.	Evaluate the effectiveness of different methodologies in achieving desired outcomes. Develop and implement evidence-based projects using sophisticated analytical and interpretive methodologies.
4.1k Collaborate to advance one's scholarship.	Engage in collaborative discussions with peers and mentors about scholarly work. Participate in collaborative research or scholarly projects.	Lead collaborative efforts in research or scholarly projects, demonstrating effective teamwork. Collaborate with the interprofessional team to enhance and sustain the impact of scholarly work.
4.1l Disseminate one's scholarship to diverse audiences using a variety of approaches or modalities.	Evaluate appropriate modalities and audiences for dissemination of scholarly work.	Disseminate scholarly work to professional audiences through publications, conferences, or webinars.
4.1m Advocate within the interprofessional team and with other stakeholders for the contributions of nursing scholarship.	Articulate the importance of nursing scholarship in team meetings or discussions.	Advocate for the inclusion of nursing scholarship in interprofessional projects or initiatives. Engage with external stakeholders to promote and advocate for the value of nursing scholarship in improving health outcomes.

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4.2 Integrate best evidence into nursing practice.		
4.2a Evaluate clinical practice to generate questions to improve nursing care.	Evaluate alignment of clinical practice with evidence-based guidelines.	Generate focused, relevant questions to improve nursing care.
4.2b Evaluate appropriateness and strength of the evidence.	Explain the different types of evidence and their sources.	Appraise the strength and applicability of evidence in clinical decision-making.
	Assess the quality and relevance of evidence for specific clinical questions.	Synthesize evidence from multiple sources to improve practice.
4.2c Use best evidence in practice.	Identify the best evidence relevant to clinical practice.	Integrate best evidence into clinical practice to improve patient outcomes.
		Evaluate the impact of using the best evidence on patient care and outcomes.
4.2d Participate in the implementation of a practice change to improve nursing care.	Engage in discussions about potential practice changes.	Demonstrate the implementation process for a practice change.
	Recommend a practice change based on evidence.	
4.2e Participate in the evaluation of outcomes and their implications for practice.	Examine data on patient outcomes following practice changes.	Evaluate the implications of outcomes for future practice.
	Analyze data to determine the effectiveness of practice changes.	Disseminate findings from outcome evaluations to inform and improve nursing practice.
4.2f Use diverse sources of evidence to inform practice.	Appraise multiple sources of evidence.	Incorporate diverse evidence into practice guidelines and protocols.
	Synthesize evidence from diverse sources to inform practice.	
4.2g Lead the translation of evidence into practice.	Participate in discussions about translating evidence into practice.	Lead the implementation of evidence-based practice changes in clinical settings.
	Develop plans to implement evidence-based changes in practice.	Evaluate and refine the process of translating evidence into practice to ensure sustainability and effectiveness.

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4.2h Address opportunities for innovation and changes in practice.	Identify areas in clinical practice that could benefit from improvement. Propose solutions to improve practice.	Implement changes in practice and evaluate their impact. Mentor others in the development and implementation of practice changes.
4.2i Collaborate in the development of new/revised policy or regulation in the light of new evidence.	Participate in discussions about policy or regulatory changes based on new evidence. Advocate for the development of new or revised policies or regulations. Analyze the relationship between emerging evidence and its potential impact on existing policies or regulations.	Evaluate the impact of policy or regulatory changes and advocate for further improvements based on evidence. Provide data-driven insights and evidence to support the development of clear, actionable policies.
4.2j Articulate inconsistencies between practice policies and best evidence.	Discuss inconsistencies among policies and evidence with peers and supervisors.	Provide evidence-based recommendations to address inconsistencies in practice policies.
4.2k Evaluate outcomes and impact of new practices based on the evidence.	Collect data on the outcomes following the implementation of new practices. Analyze data to assess the impact of new practices.	Evaluate the efficacy of new practices and their effect on patient outcomes. Disseminate findings from outcome evaluations to inform and improve future practice.
4.3 Promote the ethical conduct of scholarly activities.		
4.3a Explain the rationale for ethical research guidelines, including Institutional Review Board (IRB) guidelines.	Identify key ethical research guidelines and the role of the IRB. Explain the importance of ethical research guidelines and IRB processes in protecting participants.	Apply ethical research guidelines and IRB requirements to the design of a scholarly project.

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4.3b Demonstrate ethical behaviors in scholarly projects including quality improvement and EBP initiatives.	Describe ethical principles relevant to scholarly projects and quality improvement initiatives.	Integrate ethical principles into planning and executing quality improvement or EBP initiatives. Evaluate the ethical aspects of scholarly projects and quality improvement initiatives, providing recommendations for improvement.
4.3c Advocate for the protection of participants in the conduct of scholarly initiatives.	Identify the rights and protections of research participants.	Ensure participant protections are upheld in the conduct of scholarly initiatives.
4.3d Recognize the impact of equity issues in research.	Identify equity issues that may affect research outcomes. Discuss the implications of equity issues in research with peers and mentors.	Evaluate research studies for equity issues and advocate for equitable research practices.
4.3e Identify and mitigate potential risks and areas of ethical concern in the conduct of scholarly activities.	Identify potential risks and ethical concerns in scholarly activities. Discuss strategies to mitigate identified risks and ethical concerns with peers and mentors.	Implement strategies to mitigate risks and address ethical concerns in scholarly projects. Evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation strategies and make recommendations for improvement.
4.3f Apply IRB guidelines throughout the scholarship process.	Identify key IRB guidelines relevant to scholarly activities. Apply IRB guidelines in the planning and design of scholarly projects.	Ensure compliance with IRB guidelines throughout the conduct of scholarly activities.
4.3g Ensure the protection of participants in the conduct of scholarship.	Advocate for participant protections in the planning and conduct of scholarly projects.	Implement measures to ensure the protection of participants in scholarly activities.
4.3h Implement processes that support ethical conduct in practice and scholarship.	Identify processes supporting ethical conduct in practice and scholarship. Participate in the implementation of ethical processes in scholarly projects.	Evaluate the effectiveness of ethical processes and recommend improvements.

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4.3i Apply ethical principles to the dissemination of nursing scholarship.	Identify ethical principles relevant to the dissemination of nursing scholarship. Apply ethical principles in the preparation of scholarly presentations and publications.	Ensure all dissemination activities adhere to ethical principles. Promote ethical dissemination practices and address any ethical issues that arise.
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