

# 23<sup>rd</sup> World Nursing and Healthcare Conference

July 10-12, 2017 Berlin, Germany

## The differences between the importance and practical ratio of clinical competency among nurse practitioners: Using Q-sorts

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The advanced roles of nurse practitioner are generated in response to the shortage of physicians and to the cost consideration of health care. However, the specifications of the practices and the roles of the nurse practitioners continue to lack a clear definition which creates a gap in perception concerning the degree of competency of the nurse practitioners, causing the nurse practitioners to question themselves about their clinical judgment and clinical ability. We conducted a cross-sectional study design using “nurse practitioner role capacity questionnaire”. Two topics of the ideal role and practical role were investigated separately in two weeks apart. Data was collected using the Q method which prioritizes the input information. The results showed a significant difference between nurse practitioners ideal role and actual clinical role, the expectation and practice role were difference in medical assistance (t: 5.62, p<0.001), clinical research (t: 4.14, p<0.001), professional consultation (t: 2.29, p<0.005) and direct care (t: 2.21, p<0.005). In conclusion, the nurse practitioner’s ideal duties and actual clinical duties differed most significantly in the auxiliary services, and this is likely due to the lack manpower of residence physicians. This negatively affects the nurse practitioner training, making it very difficult for them to receive a complete, organized training. Impairing their ability perform advanced nursing roles including providing direct care, carrying out research studies and providing professional consultation.

### Biography

Su-Jung Wei has completed her Master’s from School of Nursing, Fooyin University and has worked in the Department of Pediatric, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital-Kaohsiung Medical Center, Taiwan. She is a Nurse Practitioner in Pediatric department.

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