

# 21<sup>st</sup> Global Nursing Education Conference

4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on

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## Holistic Medicine and Nursing Care

March 25-26, 2019 | Orlando, USA

SCIENTIFIC TRACKS | DAY 2

JOURNAL OF NURSING & CARE, VOLUME: 8 | DOI: 10.4172/2167-1168-C4-103

### Nurses' perspective of patient advocacy: A systematic mixed studies review

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**Aim:** The aim of this review is to report on nurses' attitude and perception toward patient advocacy.

**Design:** Systematic reviews.

**Data Source:** On February 2018, we searched for evidence regarding nurses' attitude, perceptions, feelings, thoughts, or behaviors toward patient advocacy in three databases: CINHALL, MEDLINE, and OVID.

**Review Methods:** The inclusion criteria were studies on nurses' attitude, perception, feelings, thoughts, and behaviors toward patient advocacy published in academic journals in the English language. Qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-method

research studies were included. The Critical Appraisal Skills Program (CASP) as a quality assessment tool was used as a framework to review the quality of the full-text articles. Each article was awarded a value score out of 20.

**Results:** A total of 21 studies were eligible, of the 998 studies retrieved from selected databases. The review resulted in two findings: (1) nurses consistently have a positive attitude toward patient advocacy, and (2) the patient advocacy process includes four elements: (a) the client situation, (b) the nurse, (c) advocacy interventions, and (d) the advocacy consequences.

**Conclusion:** Preparing professional nurses for the advocacy role is an essential part of quality nursing care.

**Impact:** Patient advocacy is a complex concept and there have been inconsistencies on the use

of this concept in the literature. Patient advocacy should be defined as a process with four elements: the patient situation, the nurse, and advocacy action, and the advocacy consequences. All nurses in different areas of nursing practice can utilize the findings of this study to improve patient care outcome.

### Biography

Usama Saleh has more than 16 years of experience and expertise in nursing clinical practice, clinical education, and academic leadership. He has enjoyed teaching at the graduate and undergraduate level for the past 15 years. He assumed various positions starting as an RN caring for oncology patients, clinical instructor at the University of Kentucky, Oncology Clinical Educator, Director of Nursing Education Department at a King Fahad Medical City and a Nursing Department Chair at Herzing University. His research interest is patient advocacy, leadership styles, and clinical competence. He published several research articles. He presented his research activities at national and international conferences and meetings. He is extremely committed to providing service to his department, field, and community. He has served as a reviewer for the Nursing Education Today Journal and an editorial member for the Journal of Nursing Research and Practice. In addition, he is a member of the American Nurses Association and the National League of Nursing.

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