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### A quantitative, descriptive, pilot study on chief nursing officer perceptions of the usefulness of the Schmidt model of differentiated practice in acute nursing care delivery

The current model of hospital nursing care delivery requires the RN, regardless of education level, to provide direct care to patients. Utilizing the RN for direct care functions is ineffective and not sustainable due to the impending nursing shortage, the aging population, and the recent changes in hospital reimbursement. The professional knowledge and expertise of the RN to focus on utilization, care management, quality, and satisfaction imperatives is critical for success under the current reimbursement structure. This study investigated the usefulness of the Schmidt Model of Differentiated Practice through the perceptions of Chief Nursing Officers (CNOs). Unlike the differentiated practice models noted in the literature, the Schmidt Model of Differentiated Practice is an alternative to current models of hospital nursing care delivery because it integrates and utilizes the different education levels of not only the registered nurse (RN) but all other licensed and unlicensed assistive personnel thereby, tackling the current challenges of low cost, high quality care.

#### Biography

Kristin Schmidt is the Chief Nursing Officer at Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, California. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Arizona State University, a Master's degree in business administration from Keller Graduate School and a Doctorate in nursing leadership from American Sentinel University. She has been in various executive leadership roles from CEO, COO and CNO and is online faculty for the University of Phoenix teaching organizational leadership and management courses. She maintains many professional affiliations including AONE, ACHE, and NAHQ. She is a founding board member of the Chi Alpha Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau and has published various articles on leadership in healthcare.

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