

Editorial

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Celebrating Student Achievement

We are at a very exciting time in the development of this e journal. This is our sixth issue and more interest is been shown in it from students and academics alike. Research and scholarly activity are higher profile in nursing than ever before. There is no better time to start publishing what we are doing than as a student. In recognition of McGachie and Webster (2009) suggest that skills needed to publish are developed over a long period of time, it seems obvious that we should be encouraging our students to publish, gaining some skills before qualification as a registrant.

This e-journal was developed locally to encourage our students to publish their work providing a realistic pathway for this to happen. It also provided an opportunity to celebrate student achievement. To date many students have engaged in this and found the journey to be positively challenging and rewarding.

Many nurses are anxious about the writing process lacking the confidence in their own abilities as well as anxieties about putting their work in the public arena. Much research is done but never gets into the public arena (Costello 2012). Allaying some of these fears of writing is so important at an early stage and this journal can provide that supportive environment for those starting out on this road to gain confidence and experience the process on the journey to publication.

Indeed Roberts (2018) argue that everyone has a first publication and for that to happen we have to start somewhere. Like our students writing for the e journal is likely to be their first publication. Moreover she argues the importance of mentoring during this critical phase is crucial for the student encouraging them to publish further work.

As healthcare professionals we talk about using the most up to date evidence/knowledge (NMC 2018, HCPC 2016), we explore how we can ensure that our practice is underpinned by evidence, therefore it seems a natural step to want to engage in the creation of that evidence through research and publication. Practice is rich with innovative ideas. The need to share best practice is more important than ever to avoid reinventing the wheel. Such publications can help to raise the profile of nursing among colleagues as well as further afield (McMillan and Raines 2010).

This journal welcomes expressions of interest from students who have achieved high marks for their work. We also welcome expressions of interest from those who would like to become editors for the journal.

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