NURSING PRACTICE RESEARCH COUNCIL (NPRC)

• Council membership includes
  • Doctorally- and master’s-prepared nurses
  • Advanced practice nurses
    • Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists, Educators, Unit Directors, and Faculty
  • Clinical nurses at the point of care
• Representing UCLA and UCLA Health
  • Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center
  • UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica
  • Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital
  • School of Nursing
• Functions under an operational strategic plan that promotes system-wide, inter-disciplinary, research and evidence-based practice
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Our Philosophy</th>
<th>Our Vision</th>
<th>Our Mission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - We believe that research should guide our clinical nursing practice, and that our clinical nursing practice should generate the questions and direction for research. | - As a national leader among academic healthcare centers, it is the vision of the NPRC to develop and support innovations that heal humankind through the application of evidence-based knowledge to clinical practice. | - Our mission is to increase the scientific foundation of practice through research conduct and utilization activities in acute and critical care nursing through five areas of work:  
  - Research Development  
  - Research Utilization  
  - Research Education  
  - Research Dissemination  
  - Research Infrastructure |
NPRC Homepage
http://nursing.uclahealth.org/NPRC
NPRC Study Review

NPRC Study Review Information and Application

**Purpose of Review**
All research studies involving use of nursing time, effort, and/or resources at UCLA Health System sites require Nursing Practice Research Council (NPRC) approval to assure that the rights and welfare of patients and nurses are protected. The NPRC reviews research proposals for scientific merit and feasibility of implementation at UCLA Health.

**Meeting Schedule and Submission Deadline**
The NPRC reviews research studies on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Applications must be received at least two weeks prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda. The NPRC and the IRB review may be conducted concurrently. Both NPRC review and IRB approval must be obtained prior to starting the study.

**Application Submission**
To begin the process, please do the following:

- Complete and submit the Research Study Application (Appendix A) and supporting documents by following the form prompts; and
- Please submit a copy of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval letter once it has been received.

**Study Review**
Approval of research proposals will be dependent on the following criteria:

1. The problem is relevant and timely.
2. The research design is appropriate and can be conducted on the desired unit/area.
3. The rights and safety of patients and staff have been adequately safeguarded.
To capture all research studies involving use of nursing time, effort, and/or resources at UCLA Health, including nurses as
- investigators,
- subjects,
- clinical care providers, or
- data or specimen collectors
NPRC RESEARCH STUDY REVIEW: PURPOSE

• To ensure scientific merit and feasibility of implementation at UCLA Health, and to assure that the rights and welfare of patients and nurses are protected
NPRC STUDY REVIEW PROCESS

- NPRC approvals must be obtained prior to study initiation
- NPRC review may be conducted prior to, in parallel with, or following IRB review
- Applications must be received at least two weeks prior to the meeting in order to be placed on the agenda
- NPRC reviews research studies on the first and third Wednesday of each month
- Every attempt is made to ensure that NPRC review does not delay the overall research approval process
NPRC STUDY REVIEW PROCESS

Process:

• Investigator completes “Appendix A” Research Submission Proposal and Checklist and submits attachments (Abstract, Proposal, Informed consent(s), Subject recruitment materials, Copies of all instruments, IRB approval letter, if or when applicable)

• Study reviewed by NPRC, which meets every first or third Wednesday of the month (investigators or designee are invited to participate)

• Outcome of initial review, including any requests to investigators, is communicated in writing within one week following NPRC review

• Following completion of NPRC review, study summary and NPRC recommendation are sent to Health System Chief Nursing Executive (CNE) or Director, Nursing Research and Education (DNRE) for approval

• Following CNE or DNRE review, NPRC informs the investigator in writing of the decision, including Council recommendations and/or stipulations
NPRC Study Review Process - Timeline

Day 1-14
- Investigator submits “Appendix A” and attachments

Day 14
- NPRC conducts initial review of the study

Day 14-21
- Review outcome/requests communicated to investigator

Day 14-28
- Study summary and NPRC recommendation sent to CNE or DNRE
- NPRC informs the investigator of the proposal status/approval

Average turnaround time following Initial NPRC Review: 2 Weeks
Approval of research proposals will be dependent on the following criteria:

- The problem is relevant and timely.
- The research design is appropriate and can be conducted on the desired unit/area.
- The rights and safety of patients and staff have been adequately safeguarded.
- There is potential benefit to patients, staff, or the nursing profession.
- The study will not interfere with or compromise existing programs of care.
- The study is feasible in terms of staff time, space, and/or materials required.
- There is a plan to share the study results with the nursing staff and appropriate others.
- Documented approval by the Institutional Review Board of the OHRPP.
WEBIRB NURSE INvolvement QUESTION: LOCATION

Location: Section 2.1, between current questions 5.0 (“Is this study cancer related...”) and (current) 6.0 (“Federal Regulations require...”)

Section 2.1: Project Identification Information
6.0 Nurse Involvement: Does this study involve any nursing time, effort, and/or resources at UCLA Health System sites, including as subjects, investigators, clinical care providers or data or specimen collectors?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

Note: If you answered "Yes", please submit an application to the Nursing Practice Research Council (NPRC). For contact information or for more information about NPRC and how to apply, click here. **IRB approval is not contingent on NPRC approval and you do not need to upload documentation of approval from the NPRC into webIRB.**
Guidance: All research studies involving use of any nursing time, effort, and/or resources at UCLA Health System sites require Nursing Practice Research Council (NPRC) approval to assure that the rights and welfare of patients and nursing personnel are protected.

UCLA Health System sites include Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center and Orthopaedic Hospital, Mattel Children’s Hospital, Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, Ambulatory Care clinics, Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Program facilities.

You should not answer “yes” in either of the following situations:

- the study only uses nursing resources outside of the UCLA Health System (e.g., a collaborative project with Cedars Sinai)

- the involvement of nurses is limited to nurses whose primary employment is with the research team

Timing of Review: NPRC approval may be conducted prior to or in parallel with IRB review. IRB approval is not contingent upon NPRC approval; however, the NPRC and IRB approval are required prior to initiation of the study. The deliberations of this Council are not shared with the IRB unless there are specific subject protection issues raised by the NPRC.
INVESTIGATOR EXPECTATIONS

- Progress Reports:
  - Following approval, studies are monitored through annual progress reports (“Appendix D”)
    - Meets Magnet® tracking requirement

- Presentations:
  - Investigators may be invited to present their study findings at various NPRC and/or Department of Nursing Research and Education programs and symposiums.
Magnet Recognition Program® recognizes health care organizations nationally and internationally for quality patient care, nursing excellence and innovations in professional nursing practice.

Magnet® designation is considered the “gold standard” of nursing excellence.

New Knowledge, Innovation, and Improvements is an essential component of Magnet recognition.

- New models of care, application of existing evidence, new evidence, and visible contributions to the science of nursing

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center is a designated National Magnet Hospital.

UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica is currently undergoing Magnet® certification review.
FUTURE DIRECTION

Challenge:
• Lack of communication between research team and patient care areas creates significant delays in approval and study initiation

Future Action:
• Investigators will submit a Letter of Support from the Patient Care Area where research will be conducted
  • To facilitate communication prior to submission of the application and reduce time to study approval
  • Letter of Support will be available as an online form (link on NPRC website) to be completed by the Patient Care Area Clinic Head, Manager, Unit Director, or Clinical Nurse Specialist
We welcome your comments and suggestions as we strive to support you in the successful conduct of your research.