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### **Bridges to success: Librarian Support of a Collaborative Multi-Institutional Nursing Evidence-Based Practice Fellowship**

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Bridges to success:

Librarian Support of a  
Collaborative Multi-Institutional  
Nursing Evidence-Based Practice  
Fellowship

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**VA**



**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health Administration  
*VA Portland Health Care System*

# ALPHABET SOUP

OHSU, VA, EBP.....what?





# A little history of the Nursing EBP Fellowship

Collaborative effort between the VA Portland Health Care System and Oregon Health & Science University

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The program started at OHSU in 2011 and became a joint venture in 2015.

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Librarian support of the program has been in place since inception, although some years it was just one librarian.



Photo credit Margo Halm



# Goals of the program

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Learning the PROCESS of EBP

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Development of new nursing knowledge

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Participation in dissemination of nursing knowledge, internally and externally through presentations at conferences and through publication

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Support Magnet application

- During VA's 4th Magnet appraisal, Debi Eldredge (Director, Nursing Quality, Research & Magnet at OHSU) and Basia were invited as community partners
- Sola participated in Magnet as a member of the Evidence-Based Practice Committee, and was invited to another Magnet session due solely to her role as librarian





# The Structure

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Aims to give a practical understanding of conducting evidence-based practice now and into the future

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Teaches the basics of evidence-based practice to nurses via didactic sessions, one-on-one literature search coaching, and an evidence-based quality improvement project

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Nurse Fellows attend didactic sessions that occur November – March, again in May.

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Fellows attend the local Oregon Nursing Research & Quality Consortium Conference in April

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Fellows give a presentation of their work (or how far they got) in June.

# The Small Bridges (aka Organizational Components)

Applications from each institution reviewed only at that institution

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Nurses have evidence-based practice mentors who are matched with the fellows based on interest and expertise

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Didactic sessions include:

- Cultivating a Spirit of Inquiry (aka different EBP Models)
- Ask – developing a PICOT Question
- Search – searching the evidence
- Appraise – evidence synthesis & clinical inquiry design (e.g. IRB considerations)
- Apply – models of change, measurement, data collection, standard work
- Evaluate – data analysis
- Disseminate – presentations, white papers, posters, etc.





# Librarians Teach:

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Literature search strategies

Sources of evidence

How to read and appraise literature

Hierarchy of evidence

Organizing information

Tips for presenting projects

# Nurse Leaders Teach:

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Identifying practice problems

Aligning priorities and gaining consensus with unit leadership

EBP models

Change management models

Research vs. quality improvement

Statistical concepts and interpretation

Small tests of change





# Challenges

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Each institution has unique structure and policies around conducting the project (protected time/manager approval/compensation/committee oversight/local approvals)

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Human protections process locally

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Libraries have different collections

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Different accesses to resources

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Different ways to manage off-campus access

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Low nurse staffing

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Burnout

# Minding the Gaps

As co-presenters, Librarians addressed institutional differences during each presentation

One-on-one sessions with Nurse Fellows provided an opportunity to reinforce local collections and methods of access, as well as strengthen searching and evidence evaluation skills

Librarians “rounded” with Magnet directors during monthly check-in sessions with fellows to answer institution-specific questions

As mentors, Librarians supported the learning aspect of the program, and reassured fellows that their project doesn't have to be DONE by June



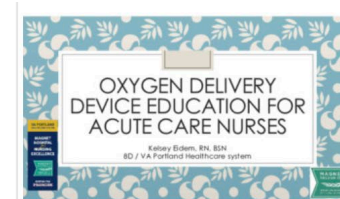
Photo by Sola Whitehead



# EBP Fellowship Project Examples

[The Team that said Yes: Reduction in the Average Length of Stay \(LOS\) for Elective Hip/Knee Replacements](#) - reduced average LOS from 2.9 days to 1.6 days

[Feasibility of the use of the Clinically Aligned Pain Assessment Measure \(CAPA\) in Chronic Pain Patients in a Primary Care Setting](#) – project at OHSU that used pain measure in use at St. Vincent. This project was delayed due to COVID



Oxygen Delivery Device Education  
for Acute Care Nurses

Creator:

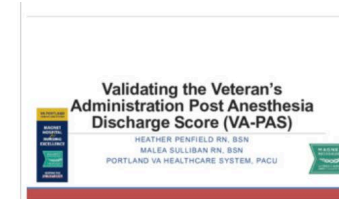
Eidem, Kelsey

Date:

2021-06-16

Document Type:

other



Validating the Veteran's  
Administration Post Anesthesia  
Discharge Score (VA-PAS)

Creator:

Penfield, Heather; Sulliban, Malea

Date:

2021-06-16

Document Type:

other



Standardizing Central Vascular  
Access

Creator:

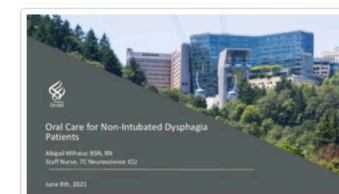
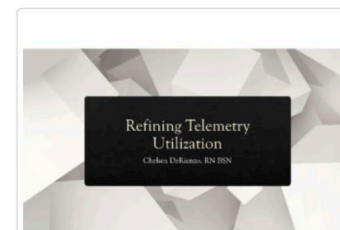
Kaiser, M. Eliza

Date:

2021-06-16

Document Type:

other



Oral Care for Non-Intubated  
Dysphagia Patients



# And then COVID came....

Fellows (and all of us) in 2020 were blind-sided by the pandemic.

Nursing EBP Fellows working their way through the fellowship more or less had to put projects on hold, but final presentations were still presented virtually in June 2020.

Photo by Sola Whitehead







# Finding a Way Around

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The collaboration continued in a Teams/Skype/Webex format for the 2020-2021 fellowship

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OHSU was unable to participate in 2021-22

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In 2022-23, it is being tried on a state-wide level (with its own challenges)

[\(Neighborhood Fiddler – Postcards from the Pandemic\)](#)

# Benefits of Collaboration

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Build Relationships with Magnet and Nursing Leadership

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Librarians served as the other's backup when needed

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Breaking down silos between nursing units and between institutions and between libraries

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EBP Digital Collections: [Evidence-Based Practice Nursing Fellowship // Digital Collections \(ohsu.edu\)](#)

- many people in both organizations were instrumental in creating the collection!
- posters and/or powerpoint slides from final presentations were archived in the OHSU digital collection
- OHSU library continues to maintain the collection

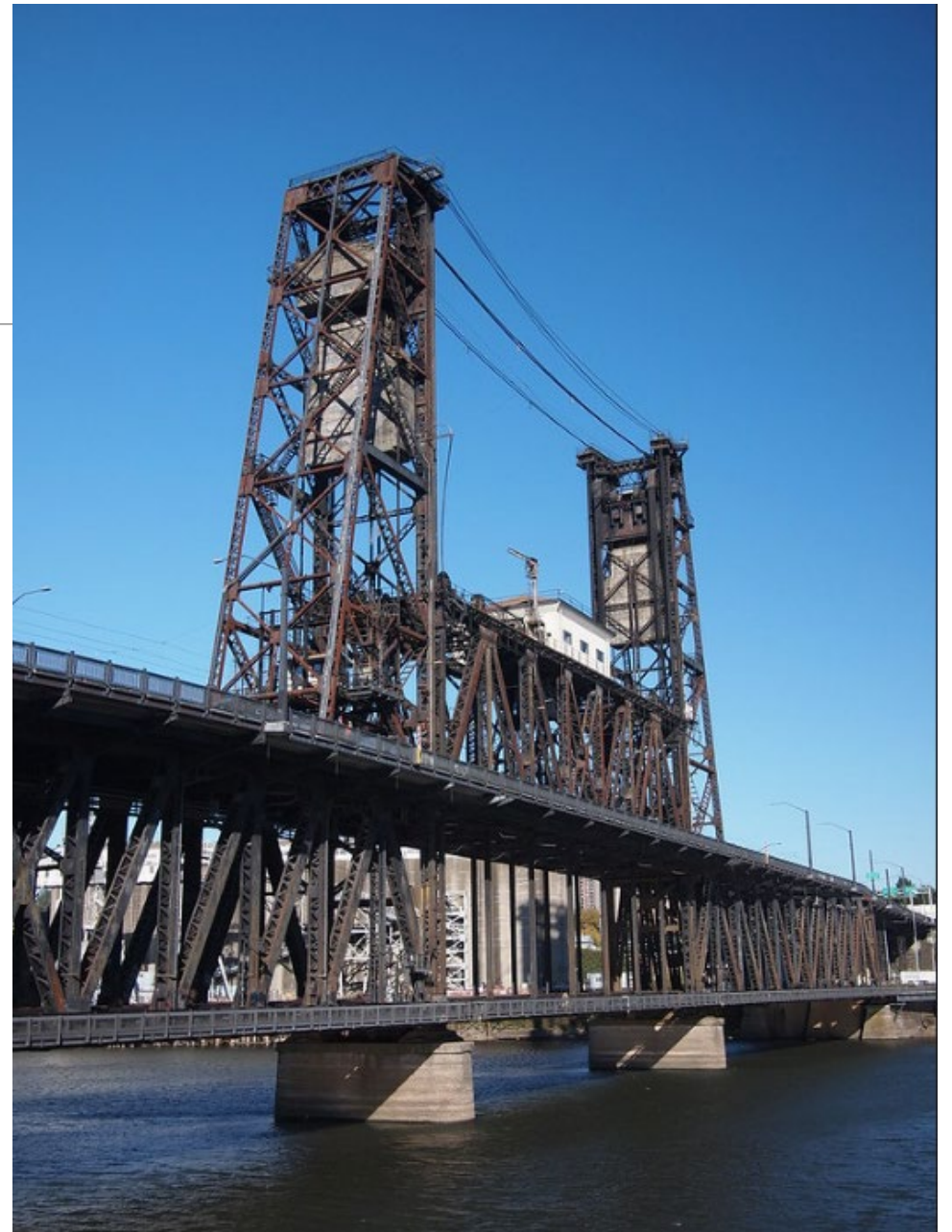


Photo by Kirill Ignatyev. "[Steel Bridge.](#)" CC-BY





# More Connections

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In person benefits – pre-COVID meetings allowed more exploration of the respective campuses (and allowed us to get coffee together!)

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Got to work directly with clinical units, and not just with the nursing school faculty

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One of the benefits is learning what is important to the nurses on the unit (that we, as librarians, may otherwise be unaware of) – especially a benefit for academic institutions who may be mostly serving faculty and clinical nursing leadership

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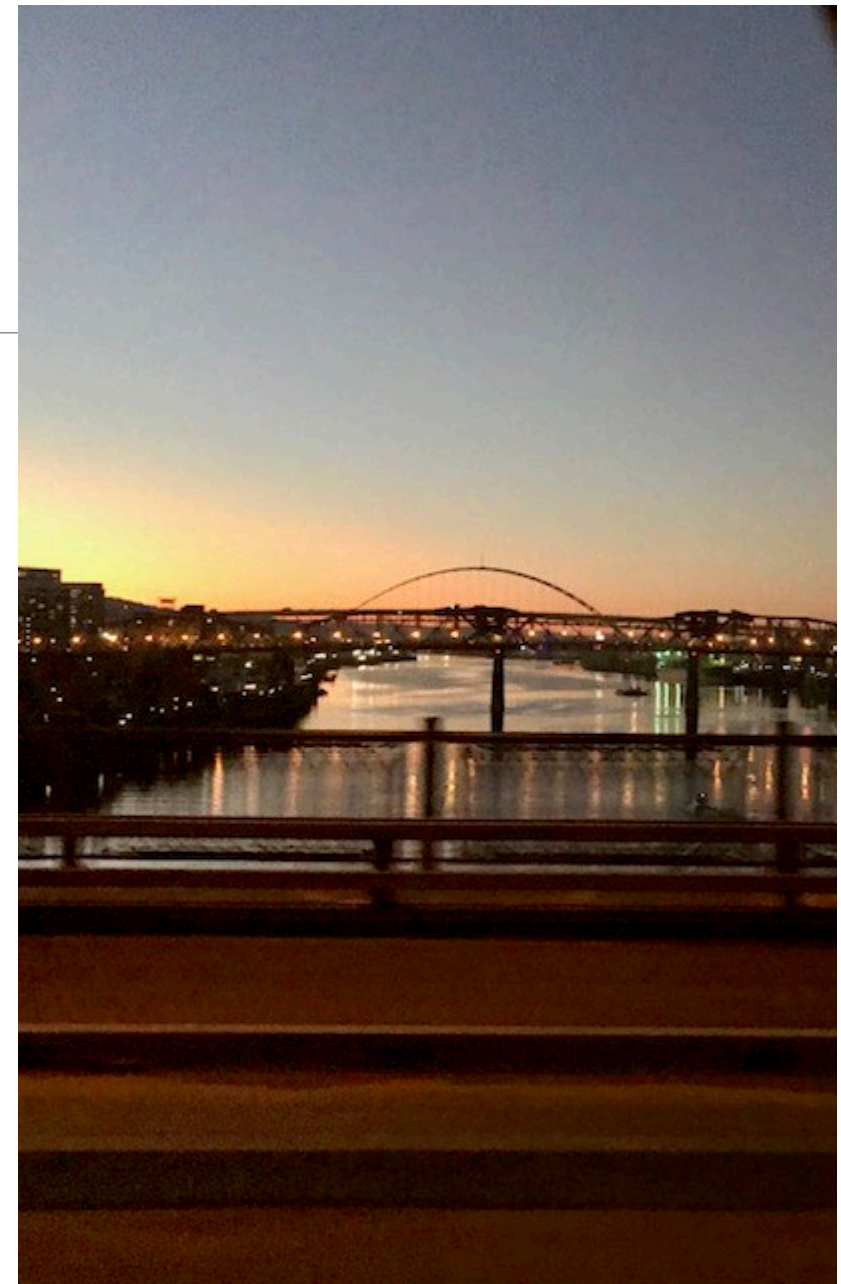
Nurses got to hear how work was conducted at the partner institution, which expanded their own ideas

# A Few Resources

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Planning to run a fellowship or boot camp of your own?

- Dang D, Dearholt S, Bissett K, Ascenzi J, Whalen M. *Johns Hopkins Evidence-Based Practice for Nurses and Healthcare Professionals : Model and Guidelines*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Sigma Theta Tau International; 2022.
- Boswell C, Cannon S. eds. *Introduction to Nursing Research : Incorporating Evidence-Based Practice*. 4th ed. Jones & Bartlett Learning; 2017.
- [Evidence-Based Practice | Institute for Johns Hopkins Nursing \(hopkinsmedicine.org\)](https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/evidence-based-practice)
- [AJN Evidence-Based Practice Step-by-Step](#)
- [AJN Nursing Research Step-by-Step](#)







# Find Us!

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Photo by Basia Delawska-Elliott



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Debi Eldredge, PhD, RN – OHSU Director of Nursing Quality, Research & Magnet Recognition

Margo Halm, PhD, RN, NEA-BC – VA Portland Associate Chief Nurse Executive/Nursing Research Director





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