

## Presentation Abstract Submission

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<b>Research Title</b>	Building nursing and midwifery research capacity in the United Arab Emirates: A systematic review

### Abstract:

Background: Research capacity building can be defined as a process of developing individuals' abilities and skills to perform high quality research that will be reflected on the organization as a whole. Capacity building of nurses and midwives to engage in research has been recognised as a priority in the UAE. Conducting research plays a vital role in improving the services provided within the health care institutions; however, less research is being conducted within the UAE. The main aim of this systematic review was to identify the enablers and inhibitors to nursing and midwifery research capacity building as well as to identify the strategies to be taken to improve the nursing research capacity within the UAE

Methods: This systematic review was conducted using key words and Boolean operators. Databases used for the search are: CINHALL, PubMed, and EBSCO. An inclusion/exclusion criterion was identified. Inclusion (e.g., published in English) and exclusion criteria (e.g., non-English language papers published earlier than 2012). Five authors independently screened and reviewed studies and extracted the required data. Our screening process consisted of title screening, abstract review and full-text review. The qualitative data analysis software, NVivo, was used to analyze findings and categorize them into themes.

Results: The search provided 394 articles with 28 included in the final review. Two main themes emerged from the analysis that play a vital role as enablers and inhibitors to the nursing and midwifery research capacity building: individual factors and organizational context. The first theme has four sub-themes: developing skills and confidence, interests in research, research related knowledge (statistical analysis, software operation, writing skill, and basic research knowledge), demographic and social factors (educational background, age/experience). The second theme is based on three sub-themes: research educational opportunities, career pathways, and infrastructure and resources.

Conclusion and implications for nursing policy: There are specific enablers and inhibitors for building the nursing research capacity in the United Arab Emirates. However, the country is well prepared to benefit from the experiences of other countries. This study identifies two key themes for building the nursing research capacity: individual factors and organizational context. These themes were used to identify the enablers and inhibitors for building the nursing research capacity; consequently, identifying the strategies to create an environment that supports and facilitates nursing research development in the UAE.

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