

# Mind the Gap – Addressing Occupational Exposures with Evidence-Based Action for Nursing Workforce Preservation

## 32<sup>nd</sup> National Evidence-Based Practice Conference

April 16 - 17, 2025 | Hyatt Regency, Coralville, Iowa

### CONFERENCE PURPOSE

Nursing care is essential to the well-being of people across the continuum, from health promotion through the highest acuity care and death with dignity. The global nursing shortage is expected to grow. This program is designed to promote nursing provision of evidence-based practice (EBP) and provide solutions to create a work environment addressing organizational systems and cumulative occupational exposure faced by clinicians that promotes their health and preserves the workforce.

Conference participants will learn cutting-edge developments in topics impacting the ability of nurses and interprofessional team members to work in fast-paced healthcare settings and address highly complex patient needs that create risk for clinicians, patients, and their families. Participants come from across the U.S. and the world, creating an opportunity to network with EBP experts, faculty, and clinicians motivated to make a difference in health care. The program is designed to meet the needs of practicing nurses, interprofessional team members, leaders, faculty, and experts.

### CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- Describe how to create a work environment for health care workers that promotes health, prevents trauma, and retains them across their career.
- Provide the evidence-base for occupational exposures health care workers face and solutions that cross patient populations and the continuum of care.
- Facilitate networking to advance application of EBP to improve health care outcomes.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Elizabeth Beam, PhD, RN**

Associate Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing

Dr. Beam has worked on an emergency preparedness grant since 2005. She was the educator for the Nebraska Biocontainment Unit in 2014 when Ebola virus disease was treated in the US. Dr. Beam has done further research on health care worker behaviors and respiratory protection.



**Diane Rohlman, PhD**

Associate Dean for Research, University of Iowa College of Public Health

Dr. Rohlman leads the Healthier Workforce Center for the Midwest addressing an extensive assortment of occupational exposures and workplace policy to improve worker well-being.

**SUBMIT ABSTRACT** at [uihc.org/national-evidence-based-practice-conference](https://uihc.org/national-evidence-based-practice-conference) **DUE: Sunday, October 20, 2024**

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# Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Conference

## ABSTRACTS MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES

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Abstracts of particular interest are related to the conference theme as well as innovative EBP projects, programs, or topics. Priority is given to scholarly EBP work. Category definitions are below.

Evidence-Based Practice: Systematic process of shared decision-making with clinician-led discussion engaging the patient and others significant to them based on the best evidence; the patients' experiences, preferences, and values; clinical expertise; and other available robust sources of best evidence. *EBP projects in-progress will be considered for poster display; projects with analysis completed by 12/31/2024 will be considered for oral presentation.*

Synthesis Report: Using a variety of systematic methods to review research findings to summarize the extent and quality of research available on a given topic. The format used may vary (e.g., systematic review, meta-analysis, scoping review, integrative review). *Synthesis reports in-progress will be considered for poster display; projects with analysis completed by 12/31/2024 will be considered for oral presentation.*

Clinical Research: Systematic investigation, including development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. *Clinical research studies in-progress will be considered for poster display; studies with analysis completed by 12/31/2024 will be considered for oral presentation.*

## OTHER ABSTRACTS OF INTEREST MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR THESE CATEGORIES

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Nurse Residency EBP: Nurses who are currently enrolled or have recently completed a nurse residency program with an EBP project (see EBP definition above). **Up to two nurse residency EBP project abstracts, selected by the organization, must be submitted by the nurse residency coordinator.** *Nurse residency EBP projects will be considered for poster display. Additional nurse residency EBP project abstracts may be submitted in the general EBP category and will undergo competitive review.*

**RECENTLY ADDED** EBP Final Student Project/Capstone: Nursing students who are currently enrolled or have recently completed a final nursing student-led EBP project for master's or doctoral degree (see EBP definition above). **Up to two EBP final student project abstracts, selected by the organization, must be submitted by the faculty coordinator.** *EBP final student projects will be considered for poster display. Additional EBP final student project abstracts may be submitted in the general EBP category and will undergo competitive review.*

Quality Improvement: Use of data to monitor and improve care processes and use of improvement methods to design and test changes to continuously improve the quality and safety of health care systems. EBP work for quality improvement should be submitted as an EBP abstract. *EBP work is prioritized and quality improvement projects (e.g., using PDSA) will be considered for poster display only.*

## TIMELINE

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- October 20, 2024: abstracts due for peer review
- Late November 2024: acceptance notifications emailed
- Mid-December 2024: presenters accept or decline poster or oral presentation
- January 2025: registration opens
- February 2025: poster or oral presentation due
- April 16-17, 2025: conference

# Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Conference

## GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

- Prepare a blinded abstract, with references, using the templates at [uihc.org/national-evidence-based-practice-conference](http://uihc.org/national-evidence-based-practice-conference). A blinded abstract omits all mentions of the organization and/or authors from the title and body of the abstract to ensure a fair and unbiased review.
- Abstract with in-text citations is limited to 500 words, title and headings are not counted.
- Reference list limited to 500 words.
- Select the model used to guide project work for EBP, nurse residency, final student project, and QI reports.
- Nurse Residency EBP abstracts must be submitted by nurse residency coordinator. There is a maximum of two abstracts per organization and each must be submitted individually.
- EBP Final Student Project/Capstone abstracts must be submitted by faculty coordinator. There is a maximum of two abstracts per organization and each must be submitted individually.
- Follow the submission instructions at [uihc.org/national-evidence-based-practice-conference](http://uihc.org/national-evidence-based-practice-conference). You will need the blinded abstract, reference list, and contact information for the primary presenter, optional co-presenter, and residency or faculty coordinator, if applicable.

## ACCEPTED ABSTRACTS

- Abstracts considered for 15-minute oral presentation plus 5-minutes of Q & A: EBP, Clinical Research, and Synthesis Reports with data analysis completed by 12/31/24.
- Abstracts considered for poster display: Incomplete EBP, Clinical Research, and Synthesis Reports; all Nurse Residency EBP, EBP Final Student Project/Capstone, and Quality Improvement.
- Following peer review, acceptance notices with presentation details will be sent in late November. Please note that reviewers may determine that an abstract is of a different category than submitted and that will be communicated in the acceptance notice.
- Two presenters per accepted abstract are eligible for a registration discount. Both presenters must submit registration payment by the date indicated in the acceptance notice. All other costs and arrangements shall be assumed by the presenters.

## AWARD CATEGORIES

- Laura Cullen Outstanding EBP Abstract Award
- Colleen Goode EBP Poster Award
- Veterans Administration EBP Poster Award
- Sigma Theta Tau, Gamma Chapter Nurse Residency EBP Poster Award
- EBP Final Student Project/Capstone Poster Award
- People's Choice EBP Poster Award
- Marita Titler Research Poster Award



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