

Dear Colleague,

IMPORTANT: *Please read on only if you are currently practicing as a registered nurse in a clinical setting, or as a nursing teacher or nursing manager directly supervising clinical care.*

Greetings from the Health Information Research Unit at McMaster University, the Editorial Office for *Evidence-Based Nursing* and other evidence-based resources.

You may be familiar with *bmjupdates+*, a free service offered by the BMJ Publishing Group and the Health Information Research Unit at McMaster University, which provides a **searchable database** of the best evidence from the medical literature, **pre-rated for methodological quality** by research staff who review **every issue of over 130 clinical journals** and then **rated for clinical relevance and interest by at least 3 members of a worldwide panel of practicing physicians**. The service also includes an **e-mail alerting** system in which users (primarily physicians in general practice or primary care or internal medicine and its subspecialties) are invited to register their interests so that they can receive e-mail alerts and searching access for literature that is **matched to their personal clinical interests**. You can check out *bmjupdates+* at www.bmjupdates.com.

We are looking to expand *bmjupdates+* to include relevance and interest ratings by practicing nurses, nursing teachers, and nursing managers.

As a first step in this process, we would like to invite you to join us as a nurse rater in assessing the clinical relevance of these high quality, hot-off-the-press studies in your own clinical specialty. We will supply online articles **according to your clinical interests**, and you rate the articles on 2 simple scales ([Sample Rating Form](#)). This takes about 2-10 minutes (depending on how interesting you find the article). We can send you articles as often or as seldom as you like.

We'll collate your ratings with those of at least 2 other nurses and use these ratings to:

- build a preliminary evidence-based database specifically for nurses;
- choose the most relevant articles for *Evidence-Based Nursing* and other evidence-based information services (i.e., *bmjupdates+*);
- show you how other nurses in your specialty rated the same articles (Rating History);
- show you the highest rated articles in your clinical area (Stellar Articles); and
- send you a yearly summary of your ratings to include in your professional practice portfolio. In the future, we will be applying for continuing education credits from major nursing organizations so that you can use this activity to obtain credits (where applicable).

If you would like to join us as a nursing rater, please contact us at MOREebn@mcmaster.ca and we will send a personal invitation and a registration link to the MORE EBN system.

We hope you will take this opportunity to help define the most useful research for clinical nursing care, and we think you will enjoy the rating process.

We look forward to working with you!

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