

DANA GEORGE EL-HAJJ

EDUCATION

2007-2012 University of Colorado Denver, USA

PhD in Nursing Science

Dissertation Title: *Health Behaviors and Health outcomes of Arab Americans: A Socio-ecological perspective*

2004 – 2005 University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, USA

Master of Science in Nursing

- Completed with *Exceptional Pass*
- Recognized for a high level of academic integration and clinical scholarship by the Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs

1998 -2002 American University of Beirut Beirut, Lebanon

Master of Science, Population Studies and Public Health

Thesis Title: *Smoking among students at AUB: prevalence and relation to other life style factors.*

1993 - 1997 American University of Beirut Beirut, Lebanon

Bachelor of Science, Nursing

1990 - 1993 Beirut Evangelical School for Girls and Boys Beirut, Lebanon

Lebanese Baccalaureate Part II – Experimental Sciences

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019- current Assistant Professor University of North Carolina in Wilmington, NC

- Teaching, research and service

2017-2020 Nurse Postdoctoral Fellow- Denver-Seattle Center of Innovation (COIN), Easter Colorado Health Care System.

- Conducted one of the first pilot projects on alternative form of tobacco use among Veterans including waterpipe and e-cigarettes in Denver CO

2018- current College of Nursing, University of Colorado in Denver, CO

Adjunct Faculty

- Teaching at the Graduate and Undergraduate level: Research methods and Nursing Professional Roles, Medical Surgical and Critical Care.

2013- 2016 University of Texas Health Sciences Center, Houston

Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, Acute & Continuing Care Department

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Lead faculty for the undergraduate Medical Surgical classes didactic and clinical.
- Clinical coordinator for students' placement in the hospital setting. Guest lecturer for health assessment and High acuity classes.
- Academic advisor for undergraduate students. Member of the Baccalaureate council and admissions committee.
- Research collaborator and consultant on different research and Evidence Based Practice projects.
- Advanced knowledge of research methodology and design, and the use of SPSS to run data analysis. Advanced knowledge of the core concepts of Evidence based practice and Quality improvement.

**2013- 2016 University of Texas Health Sciences Center, Houston
Clinical Instructor, School of Nursing, Acute & Continuing Care Department****Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Clinical rotation with undergraduate students for 3 weeks every semester. Hospitals included are MD Anderson, Methodist, and Memorial Hermann. Total patient care with students, including health assessment, medication administration, procedures, planning and interventions and evaluating patient care plan. Evaluating students' performance and application of the nursing process.

**2011- 2013 University of Colorado Denver Colorado, USA
Nursing Faculty for Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Students****Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Nursing faculty graduate and undergraduate for didactic and online classes. Classes taught were Advanced Research Methods, Inferential statistics for Graduate Nursing students and Research methods for undergraduate Nursing students.

**2011-2013 St Anthony North Hospital Colorado, USA
RN Educator for the Cardiac Care Unit****Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Provide clinical education and evaluation to nursing and patient care staff. Teach on different healthcare topics to students, nurses and patients. Participate in instructional training, observation and evaluations.
- Collaborate with health care practitioners to incorporate nursing process in the plan of care of patients.
- Ensure adherence to Joint commission standards and all related hospital policies, procedures and guidelines.
- Facilitate evidence-based practice research. Implemented the "ABCDE" bundle pilot project in the ICU, to prevent unintended consequences of

critical care illness such as delirium, prolonged ventilation and excessive muscular deterioration.

- Collaborate with the Quality Improvement department and the multidisciplinary team on different nursing quality indicators such as: Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI), Central line – associated blood stream infections (CLABSI), Patient falls, Pressure Ulcers, Ventilator-associated pneumonia & events (VAP, VAE). Extracted data on the above mentioned nursing quality indicators from charts, analyzed the data and implemented different quality improvement measures pertaining to the different indicators. Implemented the ABCDE bundle as a quality improvement project to reduce VAP, extended days on the ventilators, extended length of stay in the ICU and in the hospital.
- Participate in writing and revising hospital policies and guidelines.

2008- 2013 Rose Medical Center Colorado, USA

Registered Nurse, Adult Intensive Care Unit

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Provide direct care to critically ill patients in life threatening situations. Patient care include assessment, planning, implementing and evaluation health care services for patients suffering from a wide range of health illnesses, such as sepsis, stroke, brain injuries, burn, advanced cardiac diseases, multisystem organ failure, accidents, post complex surgeries to name a few.
- Highly skilled in utilizing and operating high tech equipment such as Swan-Ganz, invasive and noninvasive arterial line monitoring, different types of ventilators, and Intravenous pumps, and ICU monitors.

2012-2013 Rose Medical Center Colorado, USA

Charge Nurse, Adult Intensive Care Unit

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Overseeing the department for the assigned shift. Responsible for delegating nursing assignments, preparing schedules, overseeing admissions and discharges, and monitoring and ordering supplies.
- Provide guidance and advice to colleagues.
- Document and evaluate performance of nurses under supervision.
- Prepare reports on patient progress.
- Carry patient load depending on the need of the unit. Arrange for adequate staffing.
- Participate in the institution committees and task forces specific to the unit.

2007-2012 University of Colorado Colorado, USA

Research Assistant

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Assist professors on different research projects, such as data collection, and preparation of manuscripts.
- Assist graduate students with research and quality improvement projects from literature review to data analysis.
- Provide consultations to students on different statistical analysis packages

2007-2008 Trinidad State Junior College Colorado, USA

Nursing Faculty

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Nursing lead faculty for the Undergraduate Nursing students for didactic and clinical classes. Classes taught were Fundamentals, Medical- Surgical, and Leadership & professionalism. Clinical rotation with the students to Medical surgical floors and Nursing homes.

2005-2006 Derma Clinics Corporate, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Nurse Manager , Dermatology and Operating Room

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Management of department staff, including interviewing, hiring and terminating staff. Project and coordinate staffing to meet patient care needs
- Ensure that staff are provided with appropriate orientation and in-services.
- Assure that qualification and competencies of all employees are current.
- Conduct formal evaluations per institution policy.
- Foster teamwork, effective communication, and inter departmental collaboration.
- Anticipate department needs relative to finances. Responsible for purchasing appropriate equipment.
- Formulate, review and revise policies.
- Monitor quality and appropriateness of patient care.

2004-2005 Clemenceau Medical Center Beirut, Lebanon

Clinical RN Educator

Duties & Responsibilities:

- Provide clinical education to nursing staff, students and multidisciplinary team. Assist patients and nurses with educational needs, problem solution and health management across a continuum of care.
- Collaborate with the multidisciplinary team in planning, implementation and delivery of educational curricula.
- Monitor trends and implement educational strategies to ensure compliance with quality standards and parameters.
- Provide education on a variety of new equipment, supplies and instruments.
- Provide in-service training and workshops.

2002 - 2004 King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (Nursing Education & Research Dept.)

Clinical RN Educator – General Surgical Units, Orthopedics Unit & Surgical Clinics

Duties & Job Responsibilities:

- Provide clinical education to nursing staff, students and multidisciplinary team. Assist patients and nurses with educational needs, problem solution and health management across a continuum of care.
- Collaborate with the multidisciplinary team in planning, implementation and delivery of educational curricula. Monitor trends and implement educational strategies to ensure compliance with quality standards and parameters. Provide education on a variety of new equipment, supplies and instruments. Provide in-service training and workshops.
- Facilitate evidence-based research. Collaborate with health care practitioners to incorporate nursing process in the plan of care of patients. Ensure adherence to Joint commission standards and all related hospital policies, procedures and guidelines

**1999-2001 American University of Beirut Beirut, Lebanon
Assistant Nurse Manager – Adult Intensive Care Unit**

Job Responsibilities:

- Overseeing the department for the assigned shift. Responsible for delegating nursing assignments, preparing schedules, overseeing admissions and discharges, and monitoring and ordering supplies. Project and coordinate staffing to meet patient care needs.
- Provide guidance and advice to colleagues.
- Document and evaluate performance of nurses under supervision.
- Prepare reports on patient progress. Ensure that staff are provided with appropriate orientation and in-services.
- Assure that qualification and competencies of all employees are current. Conduct formal evaluations per institution policy.
- Anticipate department needs relative to finances
- Formulate, review and revise policies. Monitor quality and appropriateness of patient care.
- Carry patient load depending on the need of the unit. Arrange for adequate staffing. Participate in hospital committees and task forces specific to the unit.

**1997 - 2001 American University of Beirut Beirut, Lebanon
Registered Nurse – Adult Intensive Care Unit**

Job Responsibilities:

- Provide direct care to critically ill patients in life threatening situations. Patient care include assessment, planning, implementing and evaluation health care services for patients suffering from a wide range of health illnesses, such as sepsis, stroke, brain injuries, burn, advanced cardiac diseases, multisystem organ failure, accidents, post complex surgeries to name a few.

- Highly skilled in utilizing and operating high tech equipment such as Swan-Ganz, invasive and noninvasive arterial line monitoring, different types of ventilators, and Intravenous pumps.

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified Registered Nurse License – Colorado (Compact State)

License Number RN.018090

Expiration 09/30/2019

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus 2018

Motivational Interviewing Certificate, 2018.

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus 2018

Rocky Mountain Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training program

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member of the **Sigma Theta Tau** since November 2005

Member of the **Lebanese Order of Nurses** since November 2003

PUBLICATIONS- PEER REVIEWED

Paul F. Cook, PhD; Suzie Emiliozzi, RN; Corey Waters, MBA; and Dana El-Hajj. **Effects of Telephone Counseling on Antipsychotic Adherence and Emergency Department Utilization.** *The American Journal of Managed Care.* 2008;14(12):841-846

A telehealth nursing program used psychological counseling techniques to improve antipsychotic medication adherence, leading to reduced emergency department utilization in a managed care Medicaid Population

Paul F. Cook, PhD; Suzie Emiliozzi, RN; Dana EL-Hajj; Mishcha M. McCabe. **Telephone nurse counseling for medication adherence in ulcerative colitis: A preliminary study.** *Patient Education and Counseling.* 2010; 81(2): 182-186

This study was a preliminary test of telephone nurse counseling to address cognitive and emotional barriers to adherence in Ulcerative Colitis

Dana El Hajj, PhD; Paul F. Cook, PhD, et al. **Tobacco Use among Arab Immigrants Living in Colorado: Prevalence and Cultural Predictors.** *Journal of Transcultural Nursing.* 2015
(Published online before print November 18, 2015, doi: 10.1177/1043659615617512)

Dana El Hajj, & Paul, F. Cook. **Acculturation and Arab Immigrant Health in Colorado: A Socioecological Perspective.** Submitted to *Nutrition and Food Science* (accepted on March 23, 2018)

Dana El Hajj, Paul , F. Cook, Katherine A. James, Battaglia, C. Prochazca, A. **Newer forms of tobacco products: Characteristics of poly users among adults living in Colorado: A secondary data analysis of The Attitudes and Behaviors Survey (TABS) on Health 2015.** *Tobacco Use Insights.* (accepted August 26,2019).

Dana El Hajj, Patricia Valverde, Paul Cook, Catherine Bataglia, Allan Prochazka. **Uses and perceptions of vaping and alternative tobacco products among Veterans.** *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* (submitted October 05, 2020. Under review).

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Dana El Hajj, Paul F Cook, Catherine Battaglia, Allan Prochazca, February, 2019. Alternative forms of tobacco use among Veterans, a descriptive study. Poster presentation at The Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT)

Dana El Hajj & Paul F Cook, 2017: **Cultural Predictors of Tobacco Use among Arab Immigrants Living in Colorado.** Poster presented at the VA Research Day, May 2017. Denver CO

Dana El Hajj, 2014: **Cultural Predictors of Tobacco use Among Arab Immigrants Living In Colorado: A Socioecological Perspective.** Poster presented at the Southern Nursing Research Society, San Antonio, TX

Dana El Hajj, 2014: **Health of Arab immigrants living in Colorado**. Podium presentations at Houston Global Health Collaborative Conference, Houston, TX.

Dana EL Hajj, 2012: **Health Behaviors and Health outcomes of Arab Americans: A socio-ecological perspective**. Poster Presented at the Western Institute of Nursing Conference, Portland, Oregon

Paul F. Cook; Dana El-Hajj, RN, Doctoral Student; Suzie Emiliozzi, RN, Director of Quality and Compliance. **Adherence and Quality of Life in Serious and Persistent Mental Illness**. (Presented at the Western Institute of Nursing Conference in 2009)

Dana El-Hajj et al. **Patient Safety Perspectives of Retired RNs**. (Presented at the Western Institute of Nursing Conference in 2009).

REFERENCES

Kathy Magilvy, PhD, RN, FAAN

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University of Colorado Denver
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Paul Cook, PhD

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University of Colorado Denver
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Eastern Colorado Health Care System
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Co-Director, Denver Seattle COIN Advanced Health Services Fellowship
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