



“The Evidence-Based Practice Program has expanded my nursing practice. I now ask about or look for the research to back up the interventions implemented at the bedside. The whole direction of my career has changed because of the fellowship. I completed a research study, presented the results at the University of Minnesota and the National Teaching Institute, and was accepted into a PhD nursing program. Two years prior to the program, I would have never envisioned these opportunities occurring.”

– Laura Genzler, BSN, CCRN,
Patient Flow Supervisor

ABBOTT NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL

Interprofessional Evidence-
Based Practice Clinical
Scholar Program



This program is made possible
by the Abbott Northwestern
Hospital Foundation.



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The Abbott Northwestern Hospital Interprofessional Evidence-Based Practice (IEBP) Clinical Scholar Program, in partnership with St. Catherine University, is a 12- to 18-month program in which a staff nurse is partnered with an Abbott Northwestern evidence-based practice (EBP) nurse advisor and an interprofessional team to address a relevant clinical practice issue or question.

The Program

This unique partnership with St. Catherine University provides collaboration between clinical staff, faculty, and students with expertise to help answer the nurses' clinical question. This partnership augments Abbott Northwestern's program by bringing faculty expertise in research and evidence-based practice; support for grant applications; provision of additional disciplines to partner with nurses; support for education of clinical scholars and clinical advisors; and lessening of the work load through project sharing.

The program includes interprofessional teams, classroom instruction, one-to-one mentorship and integration of the evidence-based practice change into patient care. Participants will receive two scholarship days per month (16 hours per month) within their work agreement for the duration of the program. Free continuing education will be available for the didactic portion of the program.

The IEBP clinical scholar will be required to participate in an interprofessional, semester-long class titled Evidence-Based Practice. The class will meet every two weeks (September through December) alternating between the hospital and St. Catherine University. The course, taken in conjunction with the interprofessional team, will provide the scholar with the skills for evidence-based practice. Topic modules include an overview of evidence-based practice, asking the question, searching the literature, appraising the literature, developing a plan for implementation of a practice change, evaluation of the practice change results, leadership for creating change and dissemination/publication.

Candidate Requirements

Candidates for this program:

- Have a work agreement of 0.6 or greater
- Intend to stay at Abbott Northwestern until project is complete
- Are able to identify a relevant clinical care question or problem.

A bachelor's degree is preferred for candidates of this program or current enrollment in a BSN completion program. Employees who are also attending St. Catherine University are able to negotiate credit for the IEBP Clinical Scholar Program or work with faculty to use some or all of the work from the program as fulfilling an assignment(s) within a current course or degree program.

Program Goals

Teams will conduct and complete a clinical project at Abbott Northwestern Hospital to address hospital organizational priorities related to improving patient outcomes.

At the completion of this program, participants will gain the knowledge and skills needed for evidence-based practice, as well as a deeper appreciation for the significance and value of bringing evidence alive in the clinical setting.

Application due date:
Monday, April 9, 2018

Acceptance notification:
Monday, May 14, 2018

Program begins:
September 2018

Submit application to:
Ruth Bryant PhD, RN, CWOCN
Director of Nursing Research
Internal mail route: 11404
ruth.bryant@allina.com



Clinical Scholar Expectations

Once accepted into the program, participants are expected to attend all classroom sessions, interprofessional team meetings, and come prepared to discuss assignments. Regular meetings with the unit manager and the EBP nurse advisor are required. At the close of the project, scholars will disseminate results to colleagues at Abbott Northwestern, present at the annual Interprofessional Summit at St. Catherine University, and submit an abstract for a conference poster, oral presentation (poster or oral) and/or a manuscript for publication.

Application Process

To apply for the IEBP Clinical Scholar Program, talk with your unit manager or contact Ruth Bryant, Director of Nursing Research to request an application at 612-863-6514 or email: ruth.bryant@allina.com.

Applicants will submit a letter of support from their patient care unit manager, a letter of support from an Abbott Northwestern EBP nurse advisor and a completed clinical scholar application form.