

The purpose of this continuing education series is to increase the pediatric nurse's awareness and understanding of issues involving professional and clinical writing.

What we write, whether in professional journals or in clinical practice, can have an enormous impact on many facets of nursing research and practice. Much can be learned about nursing and specialty areas of clinical practice by examining the articles published in nursing journals. The use of abbreviations and acronyms in healthcare has become an international patient safety issue.

This continuing education series features two articles of importance to pediatric nurses. The first article reports the findings of a study that examined the extent of research, clinical, and evidence-based practice articles published in maternal/child nursing journals and the information sources used to develop that literature. The second article discusses the use of abbreviations and acronyms in healthcare as a patient safety issue, and offers recommendations for best practice.

ASSIGNMENT

Oermann, M., Blair, D., Kowalewski, K., Wilmes, N., & Nordstrom, C. (2007). Citation analysis of the maternal/child nursing literature. *Pediatric Nursing*, 33(5), 387-391.

Kuhn, I. (2007). Abbreviations and acronyms in healthcare: When shorter isn't sweeter. *Pediatric Nursing*, 33(5), 392-398.

Objectives:

1. Discuss the importance of nurses' awareness of professional and clinical writing issues.
2. Describe two ways research dissemination is occurring through journals.
3. Discuss the ways in which the nursing profession can contribute to standardization of abbreviations and acronyms.
4. Identify opportunities for pediatric nurses to keep current on professional/clinical writing issues.

This offering for 2.4 contact hours is provided by Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc.

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Articles accepted for publication in the continuing education series are refereed manuscripts that are reviewed in the standard *Pediatric Nursing* review process with other articles appearing in the journal.

This test was reviewed and edited by Judy A. Rollins, PhD, RN, *Pediatric Nursing* associate editor, and Veronica D. Feeg, PhD, RN, FAAN, *Pediatric Nursing* editor.

Earn 2.4 Contact Hours

Questions

1. Which of the following types of studies involve an analysis of the nursing literature?
 - a. Bibliometric
 - b. Concept mapping
 - c. Mind mapping
 - d. Webmetric
2. One of the purposes of the study described in this article was to:
 - a. describe the types of research designs reported in articles in maternal/child nursing journals.
 - b. explore authorship of articles and cited documents in maternal/child nursing journals.
 - c. examine the topics of research, clinical, and evidence-based practice articles in maternal/child nursing journals.
 - d. identify the number of research, clinical, and evidence-based practice articles in maternal/child nursing journals.
3. A finding of this study was that maternal/child nursing journals
 - a. disseminated research findings to their readers.
 - b. included articles on ethics in nearly half of the journal issues.
 - c. provided evidence-based teaching articles useful to clinicians.
 - d. published many case studies that related to pediatric nursing practice.
4. The mean number of references per article in the maternal/child nursing journals was
 - a. 8.
 - b. 13.
 - c. 23.
 - d. 38.
5. Most of the cited documents in articles in the maternal/child nursing journals were from
 - a. chapters and books.
 - b. medical journals.
 - c. nursing journals.
 - d. psychology journals.
6. Jake is a 1-year old who requires analgesic for his post-operative pain. As mandated by The Joint Commission, the safest way for his order to be written is
 - a. 0.5 milligrams MSO₄ every 2 hours as needed for pain.
 - b. 0.5 milligrams morphine every 2 hours as needed for pain.
 - c. 0.5 milligrams MSO₄ every 2 hours as needed for pain.
 - d. 0.5 milligrams morphine every 2 hours as needed for pain.
7. In 2004, The Joint Commission standardized a list of acceptable abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols as part of the requirements for meeting the National Patient Safety Goal Requirement.
 - a. True
 - b. False

- 8. **The Institute for Safe Medication Practices reports that over 7,000 deaths per year may be attributed to medication errors. Use of abbreviations and medical notation may make a significant contribution to this statistic because**
 - a. an abbreviation may stand for more than one word.
 - b. an abbreviation that is obvious to one group of specialists may be obscure to another.
 - c. many symbols, both numbers and letters, may be confused for each other.
 - d. all of these are potential contributing factors to medication errors
- 9. **Organizations should adopt a just or blameless culture in order to**
 - a. encourage the safe reporting of all medical errors.
 - b. encourage the safe reporting of abbreviation and acronym violations.
 - c. encourage collaboration among all healthcare providers.
 - d. discourage blaming and unnecessary incident reporting.
- 10. **The Institute for Safe Medication Practices (ISMP) has published a list of Dangerous Abbreviations. They recommend that it should apply to**
 - a. communication of all medical information.
 - b. labels and prescriptions.
 - c. computer order entry and prescriptions.
 - d. all medical journals and electronic communication.



Answer Form: Professional/Clinical Writing

***PED J0706**

Check the box next to the correct answer.

1. A 2. A 3. A 4. A 5. A 6. A 7. A 8. A 9. A 10. A
 B B B B B B B B B B
 C C C C C C C C C C
 D D D D D D B D D D

This test may be copied for use by others.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

Name: _____
 Address: _____

 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Evaluation	Strongly disagree		Strongly agree		
	1	2	3	4	5
1. The objectives relate to the overall purpose/goals of the education activity.	1	2	3	4	5
2. The activity met the stated objectives.					
a. Discuss the importance of nurses' awareness of professional and clinical writing issues.	1	2	3	4	5
b. Describe two ways research dissemination is occurring through journals.	1	2	3	4	5
c. Discuss the ways in which the nursing profession can contribute to standardization of abbreviations and acronyms.	1	2	3	4	5
d. Identify opportunities for pediatric nurses to keep current on professional/clinical writing issues.	1	2	3	4	5
3. Home study format was appropriate.	1	2	3	4	5
4. The content was relevant to my practice.	1	2	3	4	5
5. The content met my needs.	1	2	3	4	5
6. How much time was used to complete reading assignment and posttest:					
a. Less than 1 hour _____					
b. 1-2 hours _____					
c. 2-3 hours _____					
d. 3 hours or more _____					

Comments _____
 Signature _____

POSTTEST INSTRUCTIONS

1. Select the best answer and check the corresponding box on the answer form. Retain the test questions as your record.
2. Complete the information requested in the space provided.
3. Detach the answer form or a copy of the answer form and mail to: *Pediatric Nursing*, CNE Series, Jannetti Publications Inc.; East Holly Avenue Box 56; Pitman, NJ 08071-0056 with a check or money order payable to Jannetti Publications Inc. for \$10.00 (subscriber) or \$15.00 (nonsubscriber).
4. Test returns **must** be postmarked by October 15, 2009. If you pass the test (70% or better), a certificate for 2.4 contact hours will be awarded by Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc.

Please allow 6–8 weeks for processing. For recertification purposes, the date that contact hours are awarded will reflect the date of processing.

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