COLLEGIAN
The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research

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DESCRIPTION

Collegian: The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research is the official journal of Australian College of Nursing (ACN).

The journal aims to reflect the broad interests of nurses and the nursing profession, and to challenge nurses on emerging areas of interest. It publishes research articles and scholarly discussion of nursing practice, policy and professional issues.

Papers published in the journal are peer reviewed by a double blind process using reviewers who meet high standards of academic and clinical expertise. Invited papers that contribute to nursing knowledge and debate are published at the discretion of the Editor.

The journal, online only from 2016, is available to members of ACN and also by separate subscription.

ACN believes that each and every nurse in Australia should have the opportunity to grow their career through quality education, and further our profession through representation. ACN is the voice of influence, providing the nursing expertise and experience required when government and key stakeholders are deciding the future of health.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

General Information
Aims and scope

*Collegian: The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research* is a refereed journal with an Editorial Board that meets high standards of academic and clinical expertise. The journal reflects the broad interests of nurses and the nursing profession. Papers are invited on contemporary clinical, professional and policy issues of interest to nurses such as: Original clinical and educational research, Scholarly critique of policy and nursing issues, Clinical case reports, Historical or political critique of nursing and health care issues. In addition, *Collegian: The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research* seeks to promote nursing through publication of reviews, nursing commentaries and letters.

Considerations specific to types of research designs

The editors require that manuscripts adhere to recognised reporting guidelines relevant to the research design; Randomised Control Trials, Cohort Studies, Observational studies, Non-randomised evaluations and qualitative research. Please submit a completed checklist from the appropriate reporting guidelines as an addendum to your covering letter to the editor.


Qualitative researchers are encouraged to consult the guideline listed below:


Ethics in Publication

This journal follows the Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE) guidelines and requests authors to familiarise themselves with these guidelines at: [http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines](http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines). A few issues that authors need to pay particular attention to are set out below.

It is ethically questionable to break up or segment data from a single study to create different papers for publication, a practice called salami slicing. If the authors have legitimate reasons for reporting separately on different parts of the same study, or the same data set, they should justify that to the editor at the time of submission. Equally, readers need to be aware that different aspects of the same study are being reported, thus the methods section of the submitted manuscript must clearly explain why the submitted paper is justified.
Double-blind Peer review process
Editors review all abstracts and using a triage-type checklist will make a rapid decision about whether the article is suitable for peer review in this journal. The overall rejection rate at this stage is approximately 60% and the majority of these happen at the rapid decision stage. This rapid decision is of benefit for authors because if the paper is rejected reasons will be given and the author can consider whether to submit elsewhere without undue delay.

The most common reasons for initial rejection are:
1) not having prior institutional ethical approval for research and/or not demonstrating fully informed and fully free consent by participants;
2) not situating the research in the existing literature;
3) poor English and;
4) not following this guide for authors.

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Each paper that the editor/s assess as suitable for peer review is allocated to two reviewers who are asked to assess the paper against one of the Journal’s three sets of reviewing criteria: Articles submitted for review must be original works, and may not be submitted for review elsewhere whilst under review for the Journal.
After review, the Editor-in-Chief will inform the corresponding author on whether the paper has been accepted, rejected, or needs revision.

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  - The approval number
  - The date of approval

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  - Background
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  - Methods
  - Findings
  - Discussion
  - Conclusion

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  An example of a Summary of Relevance:

  **Problem**
  Little is known about how nursing students manage exposure to horizontal violence. What is Already Known

  Horizontal violence is widely reported in the nursing literature. Nursing students are vulnerable to horizontal violence from health professionals during their clinical placements.

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For more detailed information contact:

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