

DOCTOR OF NURSING RESEARCH PORTFOLIO

DIABETES: THE CHALLENGE IN BURNS UNITS



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Submitted for the Doctor of Nursing July, 2007
Discipline of Nursing, the University of Adelaide

PORTFOLIO INTRODUCTION

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Signed Statement

I certify that this doctor of nursing research portfolio entitled "Diabetes: the Challenge in Burns Units" contains no material which has been accepted for the award of any other degrees or diploma in any university or other tertiary institution and to the best of my knowledge and belief contains no material previously published or written by another person except where due reference has been made in the text.

I give consent for this copy of my portfolio, when deposited in the University of Adelaide Library being available for loan and photocopying.

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Date:

Acknowledgments

This research portfolio would not have been possible without the generous support and help from many people. So, I am indebted to every one who supported me to complete this work.

First, I thank my supervisor Dr Anne Wilson for continually supporting, guiding and encouraging me through this research. Anne was constantly positive, appreciative and constructive. During my candidature, I have learnt from Anne that the researcher should not only argue the issue from multiple perspectives, but also should disseminate this argument to others. I wish also to thank my former supervisor Dr Helen McCutcheon for her help, and for introducing me to the diabetes centre people at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH), where I received help and support.

I would like to express my special thanks to the diabetes centre people: Kerrie Dunstan the former Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC), and the Diabetes Nurse Educators: Tanya Buckland, Michelle Hargreaves, Jenny Von Der Borch and Eleanor Parkinson. Their time and effort spent in reviewing the data-gathering tools, and their feedback were invaluable in shaping this work. Within this, I would also like to say thank-you to Sheila Kavangh, the CNC of the Burns Unit, the RAH and a clinical title holder in the Discipline of Nursing, who provided valuable comments and suggestions for improving the data-collection tools in particular, and for developing the topic in general. Within the RAH, I wish to express my thanks to the Medical Records staff for facilitating access to patients' case notes.

Besides my supervisors and clinical personnel, I would like to thank other staff in the Discipline of Nursing; firstly, scholars: Professor Alan Pearson for his insightful comments and encouragement during professional seminar series and research schools, Dr Judith Magarey for her review and comments on parts of this portfolio, and Dr Rick Wiechula for his advice in overcoming some recruitment issues. Secondly, clinical lecturers: Frank Donnelly, Iain Everett, Elizabeth Zwart, Samantha Miller, Robert McCann, Brendan MacDonald, Jodie Kernick, Katrina Hite and David Foley. Their wide range of clinical experiences improved the data-collection tools. Lastly, the administrative staff: Annalisa Agresta, Gabriele Matzke and Stephanie Glazbrook. I am also thankful to the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) research unit staff: Dr Tim Schultz and Dr Aye Aye Gyi for sharing their experiences with students.

I am indebted to Jillian Custance, the Secretariat Service Coordinator of the Australian New Zealand Burns Association, for her constant help in recruiting participants from Australia and overseas. I am also thankful to Professor Andrew Burd, Chief of Plastic Surgery, Chinese University of Hong Kong, for his encouragement, support and help in recruiting participants from Hong Kong. I wish to mention my sincere thanks to Dr. Richard Wong She, a plastic and burn surgeon at Middlemore hospital, New Zealand, for his help in overcoming ethical issues. I am also grateful to every participant and every one who made participation possible.

As a second language speaker of English, I would like to forward a warm thank-you to the ELLIS tutor in the State Library of South Australia, for helping in editing. Special thanks go to my friend Dr Victoria Williamson not only for proof reading parts of this portfolio, but also for her support and sense of humour.

Let me say thank-you to my doctoral colleagues for support and friendship, especially Nooredin Mohammadi, Albert Yip, Rasika Jayasekara, Jacqui Lau, Amanda Rischbeith, Kate Cameron, Diane Wickett, Ming Yeong Tan and Emily Ang.

Thank-you to Mu'tah University, Jordan, for sponsoring me to undertake this degree with special thanks to Professor Eid Dahiyat and Professor Marwan Suleiman Mousa for their particular support.

In closing, I am very grateful to my family. The extended time of my scholarship was long and hard for my parents, brothers and sisters. Their love, support and every day prayer helped me to do this research portfolio. I am also deeply thankful to my lovely wife, my cute sons Zaydoun and Mohammad and to my beautiful daughter Hala for their support and understanding, especially as most of time I was away from home.

Overview of the Portfolio

This research portfolio contains the following sections:

- ❖ Introductory Chapter
- ❖ The Research Reports:
 - A Case Note Review Of Outcomes For Patients With Diabetes And A Foot Burn Injury Compared With Patients With A Foot Burn Injury Without Diabetes
 - Management Of Adult Inpatients With Diabetes: A Survey Of Burns Units
- ❖ Concluding Chapter
- ❖ Publications

Structure of the Portfolio

This portfolio contains five distinct sections; two of them are connecting chapters, another two are reports of studies conducted for the purpose of this doctoral portfolio. The fifth section includes publications originating from this work.

The connecting chapters are the introduction and conclusion of the whole portfolio. The introductory chapter provides the context of the topic. In this chapter, the topic is discussed from a theoretical point of view, followed by consequences of the association between diabetes mellitus and a burn injury. The effects on outcomes for patients are presented, leading to justification of the topic. The concluding chapter summarises the portfolio, and links the present research to clinical settings. Recommendations for further investigation of burn injuries among the population with diabetes mellitus are presented.

The research reports present two individual studies addressing two different aspects of the topic. Each study is reported in a separate section with its own structure in terms of page numbers, references and layout. The first study is a retrospective case note review describing outcomes for patients with diabetes and a foot burn injury. The second study is an electronic survey of burns units, featuring management of diabetes when the admission diagnosis is a burn injury.