Mary Jo and David Andre Nursing Research Grants (Andre Grant)
(2022-2023)

Overview
Jackie Ward, RN, DNP, NE-BC, Chief Nursing Officer, Senior Vice President, and the leadership of the Department of Nursing support research grants annually through the Center for Nursing Research, Quality and Innovation at Texas Children’s Hospital. These grants are supported through the generous philanthropic support of our past Chief Nursing Officer Mary Jo Andre and her family. These studies focusing on original research of clinical care, quality improvement or innovative patient care and are initiated by clinical staff nurses. The purpose of these grants is to advance nursing science and improve patient and family outcomes. The intent is that the studies support Nursing Services annual strategic goals and the professional practice model. Completed studies are featured as presentations throughout the year at Nursing Grand Rounds and at national and international conferences.

Eligibility Requirements
- Applicants seeking an Andre Research Grant must be a registered nurse at Texas Children’s Hospital who influences, leads or provides direct patient care. The research team must include designated clinical nurse who provides direct patient care, who work at least 20 hours per week as a permanent benefits-eligible employee at TCH. Part time nurses are encouraged to work collaboratively with their colleagues.
- Registered nurses currently enrolled in a doctoral program or at the post-doctoral level are not eligible yet are encouraged to be active team members.
- Team members may consist of clinical nurses, APRN and other multidisciplinary healthcare professionals; each team should include a clinical nurse Principle Investigator (PI), a nurse scientist consultant, a nurse scholar mentor and a subject matter expert as indicated. Statistical support will be reviewed during the development process.
- Each team is required to have a clinical nurse scholar mentor to provide guidance and oversight, and to enhance the rigor of the investigation. The clinical nurse scholar mentor must have a PhD or DNP; a team-based mentoring approach consisting of a PhD and DNP prepared nurse is encouraged. Specialty leadership, in conjunction with the CNO, can also provide assistance to potential applicants in locating a mentor.
- It is not necessary to have Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval prior to proposal submission; however, all funded proposals must be reviewed and approved by the IRB before the study is conducted. Additionally, participating in research studies requires the completion of the on-line educational program, the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) (http://www.citiprogram.org), prior to beginning the study.
- Please review the Clinical Scholarship Procedure on Policy Tech

Proposal Preparation and Mentoring
Doctorally prepared nurse scholar mentors, along with other subject matter experts, will provide guidance in proposal writing, budget preparation, study implementation, and evaluation. Questions regarding proposal preparation, potential budget and submission should be directed to the nursegrants@texaschildrens.org.

Selection of Grants
- All applications for the Andre Nursing Research Grant go through a series of steps as outlined in the timeline below. A formal review of all grants submitted is completed by a review group and our shared governance councils that include representation from within the TCH and the Academic Nursing community.
Time Frame and Contact information for Proposal Submission (note this is just a guideline for timing: this truly is a development process with the teams)

Time 1:
- Letters of Intent, Nursing Director Support
- Send CV and Mentor’s CV email to nursegrants@Texaschildrens.org

Time 2: 1-2 months after time 1.
- Proposals due for review, email to nursegrants@Texaschildrens.org

Time 3: 1 month after proposal submission.
- Preliminary feedback to applicants

Time 4: 1 month after feedback provided. proposal with requested revisions (if any) due
- Submit via email to nursegrants@Texaschildrens.org
- Review Committee ranks proposals

Time 5: 1-2 months after final proposal to allow for appropriate review
- Final recommendations for funding sent for approval
- Candidates notified of grant decision

Next Grand Rounds after notification
- Grants recognition during Nursing Grand Rounds

Proposal Format and Evaluation Criteria
- Proposals must meet Institutional Review Board (IRB) criteria.
- The reviewers utilize the format and criteria established by the Society of Pediatric Nursing research review rubric when evaluating proposals. It is required that applicants use these criteria to develop their proposals and work within the associated page limits. Formatting for all proposals should be margins of 1” all around, a font of 12 pitch, and single spacing.

Original Research Proposal: Inquiry can be clinical inquiry, quality improvement (SQUIRE) or innovation development. Please tailor your proposal in one area
1. Cover page stating area of intent: inquiry, quality, innovation, team members and credentials/area of support/expertise.
2. Abstract (300-word maximum/include word count after last line of abstract)
3. Specific Aims as stated as objectives or hypotheses being tested (1page)
4. Background (identify gap in knowledge) and Significance (2-pages maximum)
5. Research Design including sample and sample size (1-page)
6. EQUATOR CHECKLIST for chosen research design see https://www.equator-network.org/
7. Study procedures including study plan, measurement and data analysis (3-page maximum)
8. Expected risks, discomforts and expected benefits (1 page)
9. Recruitment (how, when, where, and by whom subjects will be recruited) and consent procedures how, when, where, when and by whom subjects will be consented) (2 pages)
10. Monitoring, quality assurance and plans for maintaining privacy and confidentiality (1 page)
11. Potential Contributions to Nursing, alignment with Nursing Strategic Plan goals and Dissemination Plan (1-page maximum)
12. Timeline, and roles and responsibilities of team members
13. Budget: what resources do you think you need to complete your study/project.
14. Relevant attachments such as appendices, instruments as needed (permission for use of any instruments or supportive materials for use as indicated)
Resources to Support Your Project

- Brainstorm session with the Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice Council: email chair
- Director/ Mentor discussions
- TMC Library has support for literature review and other services available with their librarians. [https://library.tmc.edu/services/research_consultation/](https://library.tmc.edu/services/research_consultation/)
- TCH research symposiums: Office of Research
- Nurse Scientist consultation

Grant Notification and Funding
Approved grants may be funded up to $3,000. All Andre Grant applicants will be notified of their funding status prior to Grant announcements and Connect stories.

Key Timelines for Applicants
- The funding period for the grant is 2 years' actual studies are usually conducted over (6-12 months). Submit a progress report to the Nurse Scientists at nursegrant@Texaschildrens.org every six months until the research is completed.
- Investigators will present results of completed study at Nursing Grand Rounds, have a poster at an appropriate clinical conference or local academic setting.

Acknowledgement: Dissemination resulting from this grant (publication, presentation, and grant) should include the following statement

"Research support for this investigation was provided by Mary Jo and David Andre Nursing Research Grant and the Department of Nursing at Texas Children’s Hospital."

NOTE: Adapted from the Yvonne L. Munn Center for Nursing Research, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston MA

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