



### **D54 The Evolution of Forensic Nursing Science Education and Mentorship**

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After attending this presentation, attendees will be able to: (1) identify growth of forensic nursing science education, including the practice of forensic nursing; (2) analyze how well colleges and universities are performing in preparing forensic nursing scientists for advanced practice roles; (3) review the theoretical foundation for Advanced Practice Forensic Nursing; (4) demonstrate how to meet mentorship needs of forensic nurse practitioners; and, (5) communicate opportunities for, and barriers to, providing forensic nursing science education to international and U.S. students.

This presentation will impact the forensic science community by showing how quality advancement and improved systematic outcomes are anticipated outputs when building carefully articulated academic structures and organizational systems for the advancement of forensic nursing practice and leadership. Instrumental in the development is the inclusion of informational systems and technology to advance and transform health care. Maintaining a scholarly environment that serves to educate advanced practice nurses in the forensic specialty is attainable with focused programs and dynamic models that include interprofessional collaboration as a critical component of the process, aligning with the essentials for doctoral nursing, and leading to improved patient and population health outcomes.

**Statement of Proposal:** The purpose of the presentation is to demonstrate the scientific underpinnings for practice essential to sustain the strength of forensic nursing science and to continue the path forward. The goal is to advance clinical scholarship and analytical methods for Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) among advanced forensic nursing practitioners.

**Brief Synopsis:** Academic learning environments for nursing scholars strive to create opportunities for improvements in science education while preparing the clinician for transition from theoretical knowledge and evidence-based research to clinical practice settings. Advanced Practice Nurses (APNs) with specialized forensic training are instrumental for setting the standard for EBP and optimal outcomes when evaluating victims of violence.

**Summary:** Doctoral training for the forensic APNs involves an interprofessional approach and is specifically designed to address injury in the person and populations.

Curricula schema includes methodology that meets the scope and standards for the nurse practitioner role and is strategically positioned for those working with individuals. The APN provides essential holistic care using a biopsychosocial approach to examine injuries suffered. Referrals and outreach is customary with the forensic interprofessional scientific community collaboration to attain best practice.

Content follows a pedagogic model comprised of three essential areas: (1) mapping course learning outcomes linking theory content, learning activities, and evaluation activities to the course learning outcomes; (2) identification of program outcomes with course learning outcomes (clinical judgment/scholarship in nursing practice, critical analysis of complex situations and practice systems, evaluation and application using conceptual models, theories and research to improve diversity in population health, systematic investigation of a focused clinical aspect to advance healthcare, analysis of the social, economic, political, and policy components contained within systems, manage leadership roles developing clinical practice models, health policy and standards of care, and integration of professional values and ethical decision-making in advanced nursing practice); and, (3) link Doctor of Nursing (DNP) expected competencies to course outcomes and content.

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#### **Forensic Nursing, Education, Forensic Science**