

Research Readiness: A core aspect of fitness to practice?

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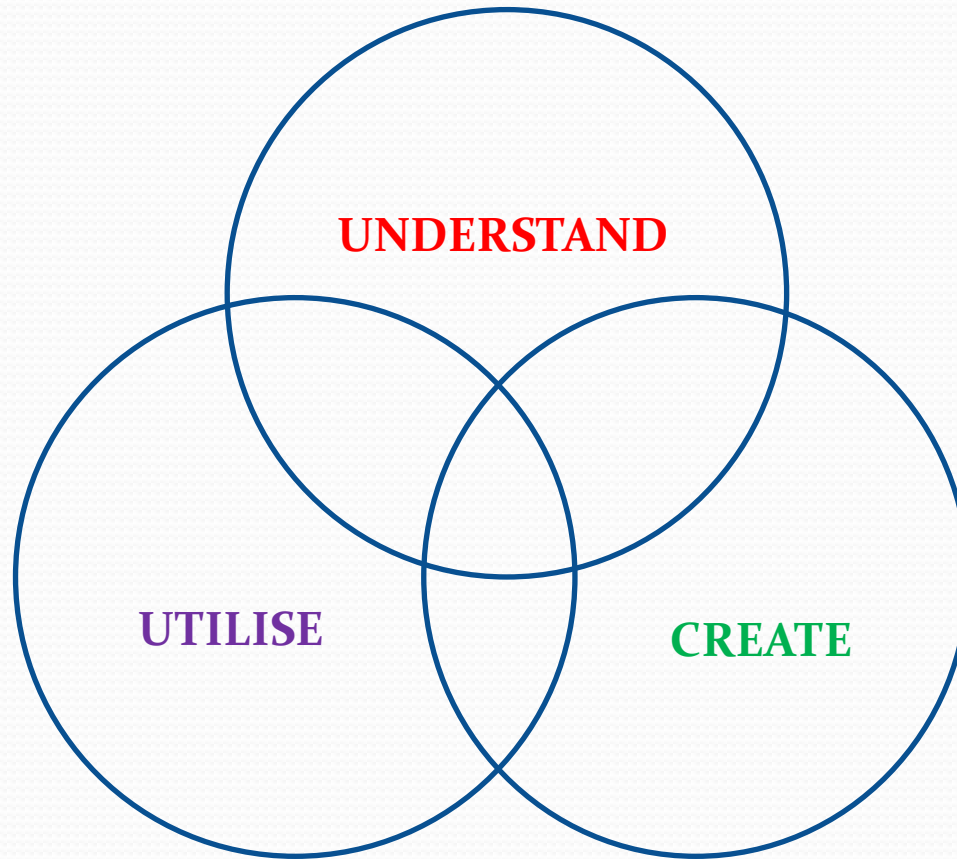
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Background

- Research for practice and research in practice founding principles of development of nursing as a profession
- Nursing professional regulatory bodies stipulate that utilising evidence to inform education, policy and practice of healthcare is an essential part of nurses' fitness to practice
- However, research and clinical practice are often seen as opposing areas of professional development
- Nurses need to be 'research ready' at the point of qualification - that is, able to **understand, utilise and generate research** in order for them to lead change to enhance patient care.

Research Readiness



Possible Challenges

- Nurses with the skills to undertake independent research are often located away from clinical practice
- Nurses working in clinical settings have high clinical workloads leaving little time for engaging in clinical nursing research
- Clinical career trajectory often limited as roles isolate nurses to agents of data collection (for medically led projects) rather than developing independent nurse researchers
- Research training and engagement on undergraduate programmes variable in quality and effectiveness

Optimising fitness to practice

NURSES

- Preparation of student with skills and knowledge to *understand, utilise and create* evidence to underpin nursing practice

ENVIRONMENT

- Preparation of the practice environment to *facilitate application of the acquired skills and knowledge* in the clinical setting.

THANK YOU

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