

# VOORWOORD

# FOREWORD

Verpleegkundiges in Suid-Afrika hoef nie terug te staan as dit by navorsing om ons eie probleme te ondersoek en oplossings daarvoor te vind kom nie.

Hiervan getuig die verskeie navorsingsartikels in hierdie uitgawe van Curationis. Die artikels handel oor uiteenlopende onderwerpe vanaf pediatrysiese en geriatrisiese verpleging asook die voorligtingsbehoeftes van adolescente dogters, tot aspekte van verpleegonderwys en gemeenskapsverpleegkunde.

Die skrywers bied hulle navorsing in die vorm van 'n artikel aan om dit sodoende met hulle kollegas te deel — omdat navorsing wat nie bekendgemaak en benut word nie, sinneloos is.

Deur die artikel word verpleegkundiges oor die hele land blootgestel aan die probleem wat ondersoek is, die navorsingsmetode en die ondersoeker se belangrikste bevindings en gevolgtrekkings.

Lesers kan nou die navorser se werk evaluateer en, as dit vir hulle waardevol is, in hulle eie praktyk toepas. In sommige artikels word die instrumente wat deur die navorser ontwikkel is selfs vir die leser gegee om te gebruik. Voorbeelde in dié uitgawe is by die artikels oor die behoeftes van die gehospitaliseerde kleuter in opvoedingsperspektief en oor voetversorging vir die bejaarde.

So word die kennisgeheel van verpleegkunde deur navorsing uitgebrei en kry ons vernuwing in verpleegpraktyk. Uiteindelik lei navorsing tot 'n beter diens aan ons pasiënte en gemeenskap.

Nurses in South Africa do not have to take a back seat when it comes to research to investigate our own problems and to find solutions for them.

This is proven by the various research articles in this issue of Curationis. The articles deal with divergent topics from paediatric and geriatric nursing as well as educational needs of adolescent girls to aspects of nursing education and community nursing.

The writers offer their research in the format of an article to share it with their colleagues — because research which is not made known and applied is senseless.

Through the article nurses over the whole country are exposed to the problem which was investigated, the research method and the investigator's main findings and conclusions.

Readers are now able to evaluate the researcher's work and, if it is valuable to them, apply it in their own practice. In some articles the instruments developed by the researcher are even provided for the reader to use. Examples in this issue can be found in the articles on the needs of the hospitalised toddler in educational perspective and on foot care for the aged.

In this way the body of knowledge of nursing science is expanded and we achieve renewal in nursing practice. Ultimately, research leads to a better service to our patients and community.