

Research, Innovation & Technology Development

"Joining State-of-the-Art Research with State-of-the-Art Care"



Recent Publications

Dahlke S, Hunter KF, Negrin K, Kalogirou RF, Fox M and Wagg A. The **Educational Needs of Nursing Staff** When Working with Hospitalized Older People. Journal of Clinical Nursing, https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.14631, Jul 2018.

Hunter KF & Wagg A. Improving Nurse Engagement in Continence Care. *Nursing: Research and Reviews*, 8, 1-7, https://doi.org/10.2147/NRR.S144356, Aug 2018.

Guthrie DM, Jacob GS, Davidson JGS, Williams N, Campos, J, Hunter K, Mick P, Orange JB, Pichora-Fuller K, Phillips NA, Savundranayagam M & Wittich W. Combined Impairments in Vision, Hearing and Cognition are Associated with Greater Levels of Functional and Communication Difficulties Than Cognitive Impairment Alone: An Analysis of InterRAI Data for Home Care and Long-Term Care Recipients in Ontario. PLOS One 13(2):e0192971, https://doi.org/10.1371/ journal.pone.0192971, Feb 2018.

Gibson W, Hunter KF, Camicioli R, Booth J, Rafferty D, Skelton D, Dumoulin C, Paul L & Wagg A. The Association Between Lower Urinary Tract Symptoms and Falls: Forming a Theoretical Model for a Research Agenda. Neurourology & *Urodynamics*, 27, 501-509,

PMID: 28471525, DOI: 10.1002/

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- Nurse Practitioner, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital, Specialized Geriatrics
- Research Affiliate, Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital

Dr. Hunter's career has been in gerontological nurse and she has worked with older adults across the continuum of health services. Dr. Hunter holds specialist preparation and certification in gerontological and continence nursing. Prior to joining the Faculty of Nursing, she worked as an Advanced Practice Nurse, first as a CNS in older adult care, then as an nurse practitioner in acute geriatric services and inpatient medicine. As part of her academic appointment, she has a Secondment as a Nurse Practitioner with Specialized Geriatric Services at the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital in the Continence Clinic.

Current research projects include: facilitators and barriers to continence care during inpatient rehabilitation, healthy aging, a trial of a sensory to support continence assessment and care planning in long-term care, and care of older persons on inpatient medical units (focus: cognitive impairment and continence). Dr. Hunter's research team is currently planning projects in dementia and incontinence, as well as bladder and bowel assessment and management in end-of-life care. She has made increasing use of mixed methods in her research as this approach provides an opportunity to gain greater understanding of complex clinical issues and includes the perspective of persons receiving care.

Clinical Implications of Research:

Although many older persons face bladder and bowel concerns that can profoundly affect quality of life for the individual and their care partners, and even influence discharge location options from hospital, published literature shows continence receives little attention in many care settings, and most health care professionals have limited knowledge in this area. Research focused on improving clinical care of bladder and bowel issues has potential to improve both quality of life and health outcomes.

Inspiration/Vision Statement:

Bowel and bladder problems are common health concerns for older persons, but often hidden behind stigma and lack of knowledge. Continence research improves quality of life and health outcomes for persons living with bladder and bowel problems, raising public and professional awareness and understanding.

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