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Abstract

Nursing is a relatively new discipline in research with a small number of registered nurses holding a research higher degree (RHD). Entry into RHD study for nurses is often via a less direct route than the traditional bachelor's degree through honours to PhD pathway. The supervisor-candidate relationship is an important factor in RHD completions and the perception of a quality experience by RHD candidates. A comprehensive search of the electronic literature was conducted to investigate recommendations for nursing RHD candidates to consider when searching for a supervisor. Thematic analysis of the literature found three main themes: assessing the RHD supervisor's background, personality and management style. Based on the identified themes, recommendations included a list of concepts for the RHD candidate to investigate in relation to themselves and the supervisor. The function of choosing an appropriate supervisor is one of the most important steps a candidate will make. By investigating supervisors' suitability, nursing RHD candidates may avoid potential issues in the supervision process that could impact on their successful timely completion of their PhD. (HRK /

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