

Project Title

Comprehensive Development and Content Validation Of A Psychiatric Curriculum for
Advanced Practice Nurse Interns

Project Lead and Members

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Organisation(s) Involved

Institute of Mental Health

Healthcare Family Group(s) Involved in this Project

Nursing

Applicable Specialty or Discipline

Psychiatry

Aims

To describe the development and the content validation of a psychiatric curriculum
for APNs–interns within a psychiatric hospital in Singapore.

Background

See poster attached/below

Methods

See poster attached/below

Results

See poster attached/below

Lessons Learnt

See poster attached/below

Conclusion

See poster attached/below

Additional Information

Accorded the Singapore Health & Biomedical Congress 2023 (Singapore Nursing Award)
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Project Category

Training & Education

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Comprehensive development and content validation of a psychiatric curriculum for Advanced Practice Nurse Interns



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Background

Advanced practice nurse (APN) improves (1) clinical outcomes, (2) patient satisfaction and (3) overall quality of care, in a cost-effective manner (Woo, Lee, & San Tam, 2017). Psychiatric APNs provide bio-psychosocial assessments and management, diagnostic evaluation, psychological and psychopharmacological interventions (Cornwell & Chiverton, 1997).

Traditionally, the specialty training for the APN was embedded within the school curriculum of University of Singapore (NUS). Since 2020, in order to meet increasing healthcare demands, speciality track curriculum had ceased (NUS, 2020), and APN-interns will instead attend their specialty track training within their respective field. This poster aims to describe the development and the content validation of a psychiatric curriculum for APNs-interns within a psychiatric hospital in Singapore.

Methods

The development of the curriculum was conducted with four phases. The four phases were: (1) learning needs analysis, (2) evaluation of overseas and local psychiatric APN curriculum, (3) identification of specific topics based on findings from (1) and (2), and lastly, (4) content validation of the curriculum draft by 6 content experts. Any topic that did not meet the pre-determined mean score of (5) or standard deviation of <2 would be modified or removed.

Results: phase 1-2

(1) Learning needs analysis

APN interns were most confident with medical skills and least confident with psychiatric assessment and management.

(2) Evaluation of overseas curriculum

Countries	N	Focus	Curriculums	N
America	50	Psychiatric assessment and management	Psychiatric assessment / management	52
UK	2	Theoretical	Psychopharmacology or neuroscience courses	42
Australia	2	Psychotherapy	Psychotherapy	28

Figure 1

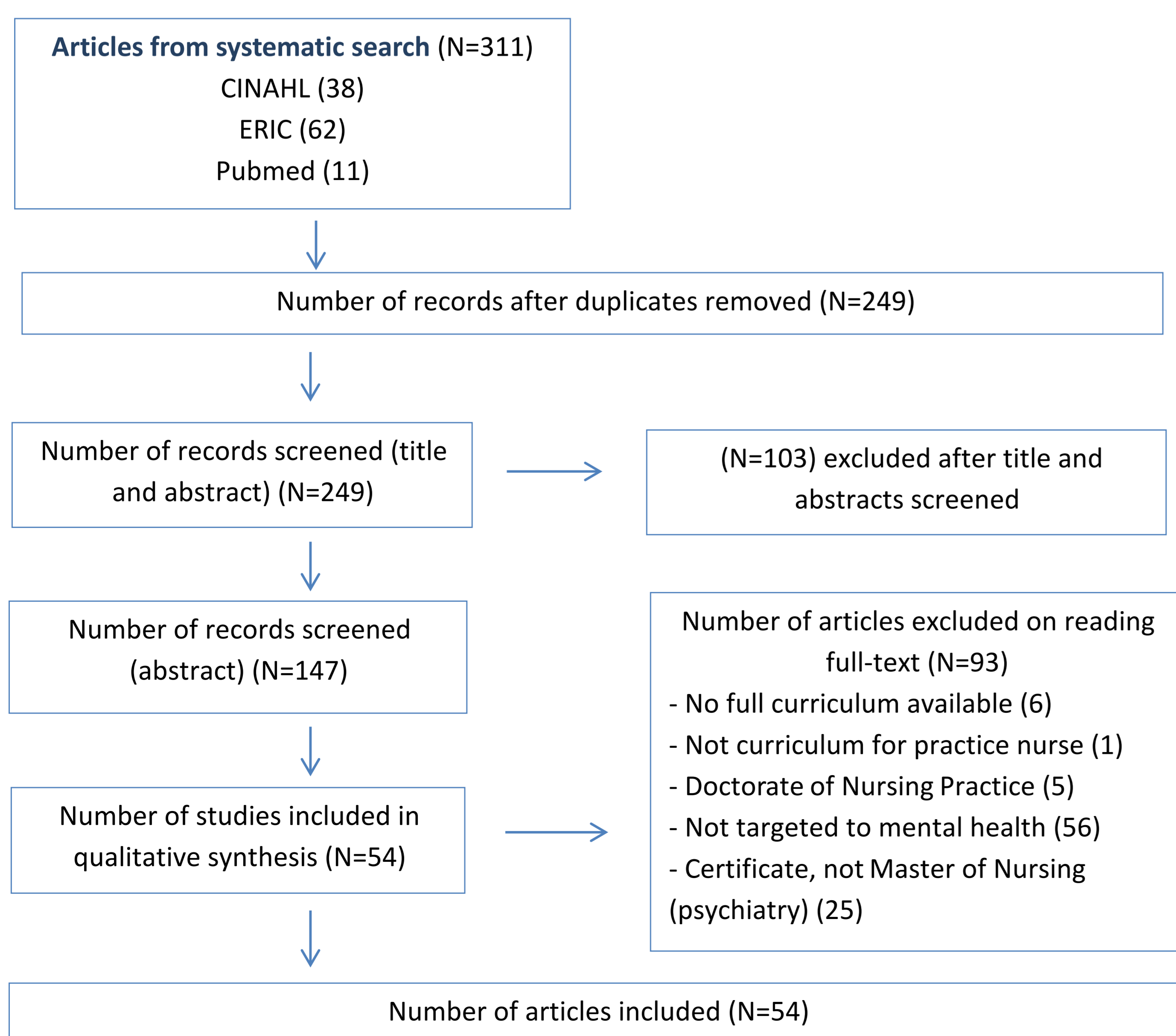


Table I: phase 2-4

Topics	2006	2009	2011	2012	2014	2016	Result	Mean	SD
History of psychiatry and disorder classification	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.50	0.55
Psychiatric interview, MSE & case formulation	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes		
*Basic psychopathology							Yes	6.67	0.52
*APN Roles & Modalities of Care							Yes	5.83	0.75
Schizophrenia spectrum disorders	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.67	0.52
Depressive disorders	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.67	0.52
Bipolar Disorder and related disorder	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.83	0.41
Risk assessments	X		X	X	X	X	Yes	6.83	0.41
*Psychiatric emergencies							Yes	6.50	0.55
*Medical Legal Aspect							Yes	6.17	0.41
Anxiety Disorders	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.50	0.55
Obsessive compulsive & related disorders	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.17	1.17
Trauma & Stress-related disorders	X	X	X	X	X	X	Yes	6.17	0.98
Substance abuse and related disorders	X	X		X	X	X	Yes	6.17	1.17
Geriatric Psychiatry	X	X		X	X	X	Yes	6.33	0.82
*Common psychiatric conditions in pregnancy							Yes	5.83	1.17
*Medical disorders with psychiatric manifestations							Yes	6.33	0.52
Eating disorder	X	X		X	X	X	C	5.83	1.33
*Intellectual disability (ID)							Yes	5.50	1.38
Personality Disorder	X	X		X	X	X	Yes	6.50	0.84
Sleep Disorder	X	X		X	X	X	C	5.83	1.33
Somatoform, factitious, dissociative disorder	X	X		X	X	X	C	5.67	1.21
Impulse control disorder	X			X	X	X	C	5.67	1.51
Sexual dysfunction & gender identity disorder	X						C	5.33	1.63
Family therapy: Schizophrenia and family therapy			X		X	X	Yes	5.67	1.51
Psychotherapy	X		X	X	X	X	Yes	6.17	0.98
Community Mental Health			X	X	X	X	Yes	6.17	0.98
Biological treatment: ECT and rTMS							Yes	6.33	1.03
Child and Adolescent Psychiatry				X	X	X	Yes	5.83	1.33

Results: phase 4

(4) Total intraclass correlation coefficient was 0.98, signifying excellent reliability amongst experts. Means and SD for each topic are listed in Table I. Three topics were eliminated after the content validation process, (1) existential humanistic psychotherapy (Mean=4.83), (2) rational emotive behavioural therapy (Mean=4.83), (3) gender dysphoria and management (SD=2.04). A new topic: cultural influences in psychiatry was added.

Conclusion

This paper shared the development of the psychiatric curriculum for APN-interns in Singapore. It is possible to develop a curriculum using a vigorous process, within a healthcare institution instead of school. This will facilitate the role expansion of healthcare professionals, allowing them to fulfil the healthcare gaps, contributing to accessible and quality healthcare, promoting an overall healthy and happy population.

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