

Are there Some Types Scientific Researches More Important than Others?

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Introduction

The nursing research along the time is expanding and deepening the knowledge that conducts the clinic practice of nurses. By instance, we have our pioneer in nursing, Florence Nightingale, who along the Crimea war, observed the association between environmental factors and the patients well being, consequently introduced changes on patients assistance [1].

As time passed, several types of methodologies were incorporated and consolidating according to the nursing needs, in order to understand better the diverse phenomena of interest. Methods with quantitative approach as well as descriptive, cohort, case-control and others.

On a survey performed on Pubmed portal, including the last 25 years, from 1990 to 2015, using the Mesh descriptors: Review, Case Report, Randomized Controlled Trial, Cohort Studies, Case-control Studies and Validating; and the keyword: Mixed Methods, in the category of publication type and published on Nursing Journals. As the graphic below shows, there was a great proportion of case reports studies (above 50%) between 1990 and 1995, while in the next ten years (1996 to 2005) almost 60% of the published articles were reviews, both integrative and systematic. Furthermore, validation studies rise after it early appear at 2000. As well as mixed methods, which have simultaneously both approaches, qualitative and quantitative mainly since 2002; even today there is a debate about which could be the best moment to integrate this approaches [2] (Figure 1).

On the other hand, the medicine based on evidence has established the Evidence Pyramid, designed to describe the level of quality of evidence. In this pyramid, the systematic review, meta analysis and meta synthesis are at the top, and on different opinions from several authors, at the base we found the descriptive studies or case reports or even animal studies [3,4]. Notwithstanding, it is necessary to highlight that every type of study is important as long as it follows a methodological rigor. Therefore, every method is the path followed by each researcher to go through, to reach their established objectives. By instance, descriptive studies will always be necessary in our midst, because we live in constant change and transformation on culture, moral, technology and communication.

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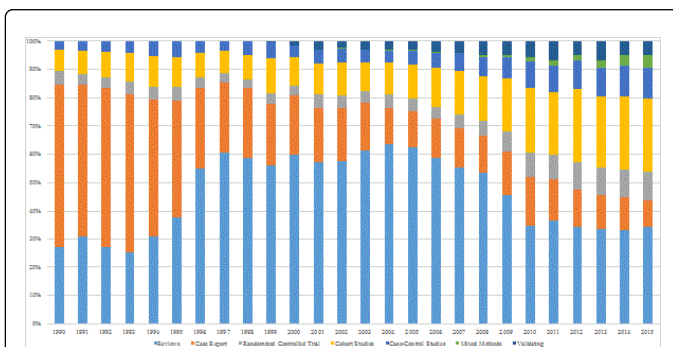


Figure 1: Distribution according to type of articles from 1990 to 2015.