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## Guest Editorial

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Nurse researchers are our modern Florence Nightingales, who bring a holistic perspective to the promotion of healthcare and compassionate commitment. They are at the spearhead of implementing the advancement of quality and excellence in healthcare. Basing professional nursing practice on research is of critical importance.

In order to enhance and facilitate nursing research, this path-breaking journal, the Manipal Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences, will need to consider the vision and importance of nursing research as a scientific basis for healthcare. It is also important to consider the scope of nursing research, the cultural environment and workforce required for cutting-edge and high-impact nursing research, the importance of a research-intensive environment for faculty and students, and the challenges and opportunities impacting the research discipline and nursing profession.

Given the growing demand for increasing efficiency and effectiveness in nursing education and the critical need for leadership development in all areas of the nursing profession, Manipal University has been at the forefront in supporting and encouraging a culture of research and scholarship, providing strong mentoring and educational programs to ensure an appropriately educated research workforce. It has provided necessary infrastructure and funding mechanisms to support coherent programs of nursing research.

Well-researched, clearly defined and measurable competencies are now the norms across the Nursing profession. I hope that this journal will take the lead in giving direction to describing and defining interprofessional competencies and interprofessional health education and healthcare related issues. Nurses form the backbone of the interprofessional healthcare task force. For this reason, nursing education research can produce a clear understanding of how the nursing curriculum can be realigned keeping in mind the goal of interprofessional health education, professional nursing practice and interprofessional collaboration.

This Journal should also focus on nursing education research and examine efficient educational processes, identifying new ways to incorporate technology in order to enhance learning, and discovering more effective approaches to promoting lifelong learning and commitment to leadership.

Scientific integrity and the ethics of investigation should guide nursing research with commitment to ethical standards in all phases of scientific discovery and use of knowledge.

I congratulate the Editorial team, the contributors and the reviewers of the Manipal Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences for their fantastic effort and wish the journal every success.

**Dr K Ramnarayan**  
Vice Chancellor  
Manipal University