• Evidence based practice is defined as the integration of best evidence available to make decisions about patient care
• Research shows better outcomes as a result of evidence based practice vs. tradition-based care
• It is estimated that it takes approximately 17 years to translate research findings into clinical practice
• In one similar study higher levels of education were associated with stronger beliefs about EBP and increased implementation
• Past studies have shown major barriers to incorporating EBP into nursing practice are lack of time, knowledge, mentors, and organizational support
• Vanderbilt’s Evidence Based Practice & Nursing Research Committee are continuously trying to eliminate these barriers and make EBP more accessible to staff.
• An evidence based practice survey was created to assess nursing staff attitude related to EBP and nursing staff utilization of EBP
• This is the 4th biannual survey sent to nursing staff to capture this feedback.
• Survey results will be utilized to evaluate effectiveness of efforts to make EBP accessible to staff

**METHODS**

• All nursing staff were sent an invitation via email to voluntarily participate in this biannual survey.
• The survey consisted of 72 questions

**RESULTS**

- Of the (number of RNs) RNs invited to participate 327 completed the survey.
- 95% of RN staff had positive attitude related to EBP
- 79% of RNs reported belief of authority to change practice based on current evidence
- 83% of RN staff agreed using evidence to guide practice is a part of their job responsibility
- 79% of RN staff learned EBP in their academic preparation; 75% of RNs surveyed held at least a BSN degree.
- RN staff reported low usage of Vanderbilt EBP resources
- Some themes corresponded to previous research
  - Greatest barrier to using EBP was insufficient time
  - 44% of staff responded negatively to “my supervisor encourages me to find evidence to support my nursing practice.”

**CONCLUSIONS**

- Time continues to be a challenge for RNs to access evidence
- Leaders need to be engaged further to support RN utilization of EBP
- Previous similar studies suggest utilizing an EBP mentor/champion would increase research utilization.
- Results suggest the changing demographic of Vanderbilt RNs.
  - Majority of survey participants held at least a BSN degree, learned EBP in their academic participation, and felt incorporating EBP into practice was a job responsibility