

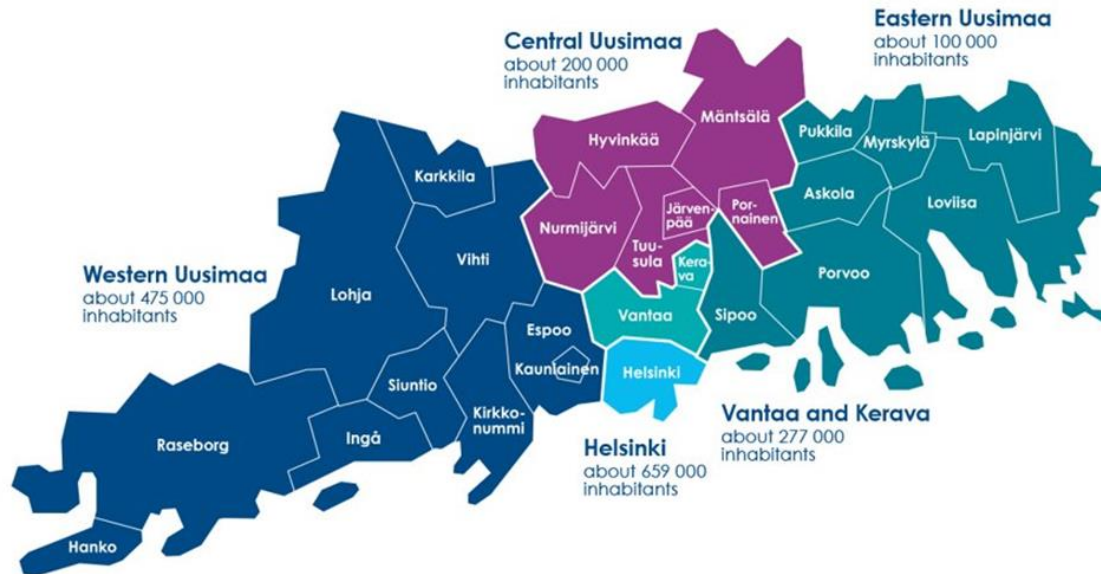
# NURSING RESEARCH CENTER - SUPPORTING EVIDENCE-BASED CLINICAL EDUCATION AT THE HUS HELSINKI UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

22.3.2024 |

Toni Haapa, RN, PhD, Research Nursing Officer

Kristiina Junttila, RN, PhD, Director of Nursing Research Center

# WE ARE THE LARGEST PROVIDER OF SPECIALIZED HEALTHCARE IN FINLAND



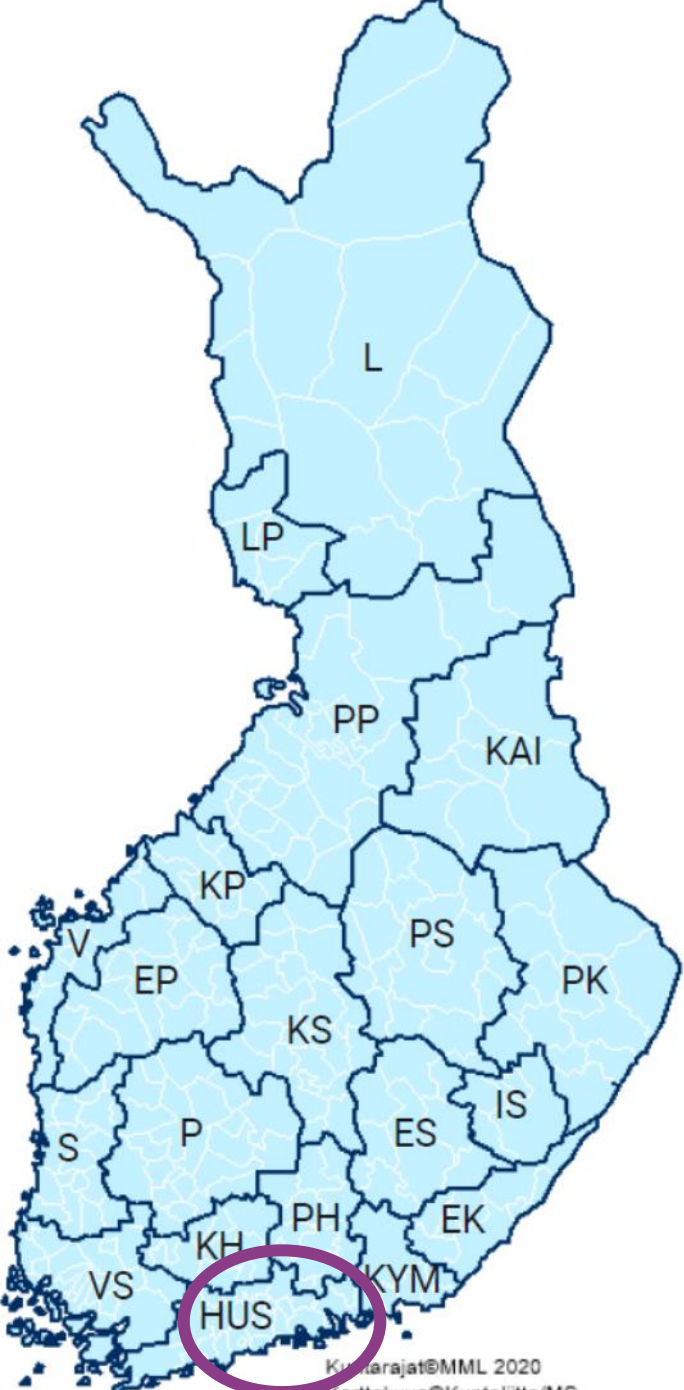
- Every year, about **680,000 patients** are treated at the HUS Helsinki University Hospital.
- We employ **27,000 professionals** to serve all patients' best interests.
- We are in charge of **specialized health care in the Uusimaa region.**
- Moreover, the treatment of **many rare and difficult diseases** in Finland has also been centralized to HUS.



**HUS Nursing Research  
Center (NRC)**

**Visiting address**  
Tukholmankatu 8F  
4th floor of section B

**Postal address**  
P.O. Box 442  
FIN-00029 HUS



**Established  
in 2019**

**HUS NRC – CLINICAL EVIDENCE  
AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE BEST OF THE PATIENT**

# STAFF OF NURSING RESEARCH CENTER AT THE HELSINKI UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL



**Kristiina Junttila**, RN, PhD, Professor  
Director of Nursing Research Center



**Toni Haapa**, RN, PhD  
Research Nursing Officer

In addition, we have two temporary vacancies to support strategic research and development and research-based development on unit-level



# WHY NRC WAS ESTABLISHED?



International quality accreditation programs, such as The Magnet Recognition Program, require that evidence-based practice (EBP) is implemented.

However, EBP in healthcare is not yet implemented as expected, and there is unjustified variation in practices between different units and professionals.

The implementation of EBP requires both systematic application of existing evidence and producing new evidence, as well as visible contributions to the nursing science.

Therefore, nursing research centers have been established to hospital organizations globally to promote EBP.

**Factors related to evidence-based care:**

- Research needs, but also increasing research evidence in clinical nursing, its management and education
- Ethical and legal obligations

**NURSING RESEARCH CENTER**

*Mission: Clinical evidence and its implementation for the best of the patients*

To promote the production of nursing research evidence

For instance, facilitating research periods for PhD-students and post doctoral researchers in HUS, guiding / coordinating nursing research conducted at HUS and supporting research activities of our nursing staff

To promote the use of nursing research evidence

For instance, communicating about new research evidence in nursing and health sciences, promoting the implementation of evidence-based recommendations and educating nursing staff in evidence-based practice.

**Organisational factors:**

- Achieving strategic priorities of HUS and implementing the health sciences research program
- International accreditation projects, such as the Magnetic Hospital Accreditation

How we promote  
the production of  
nursing research  
evidence?



# RESEARCH PERIODS (MONTHS) TO PHD-STUDENTS AND POST DOC RESEARCHERS

	Applications, n	Months granted, n	Recipients, n	Utilisation rate
<b>2019</b>	21	45	PhD-students: n=11 Post doc: n=1	81%
<b>2020</b>	25	34	PhD-students: n=8 Post doc: n=1	92%
<b>2021</b>	13	34	PhD-students: n=9 Post doc: n=1	94%
<b>2022</b>	14	33	PhD-students: n=9 Post doc: n=1	87%
<b>2023</b>	19	35	PhD-students: n=12 Post doc: n=1	93 %
<b>2024</b>	17	35	PhD-students: n=10 Post doc: n=1	<i>na</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>207</b> person-months <b>19,7</b> person-years	PhD-students: <b>n=59</b> Post doc: <b>n=6</b>	<b>89 %</b>



How we guide the  
research conducted  
at the HUS Helsinki  
University Hospital?

A black arrow points from the left towards the text 'Health Sciences Research Program 2022-2025'.

*Health Sciences  
Research Program  
2022-2025*



## Four main focuses



Interventions of clinical nursing, therapy and diagnostics work

High quality of health services

Outstanding leadership

Premises of professional nursing practice

Research topics include, for instance student mentoring, orientation of new employees, transition phases in clinical career

# OTHER ACTIVITIES – SOME EXAMPLES

- Coordinating the network for PhD-students
- Coordinating the network for PhD's with a nursing (or responding) background
- Providing consultations in different study phases
- Supervising PhD and master students
- Preparing study permissions (nursing science, HUS-level)
- Organising educations to support research competence
- Representing nursing science in HUS Research Committee, HUS Ethical Committee, and HUS Patient and Public Research Panel





How we promote  
the use of nursing  
research  
evidence?

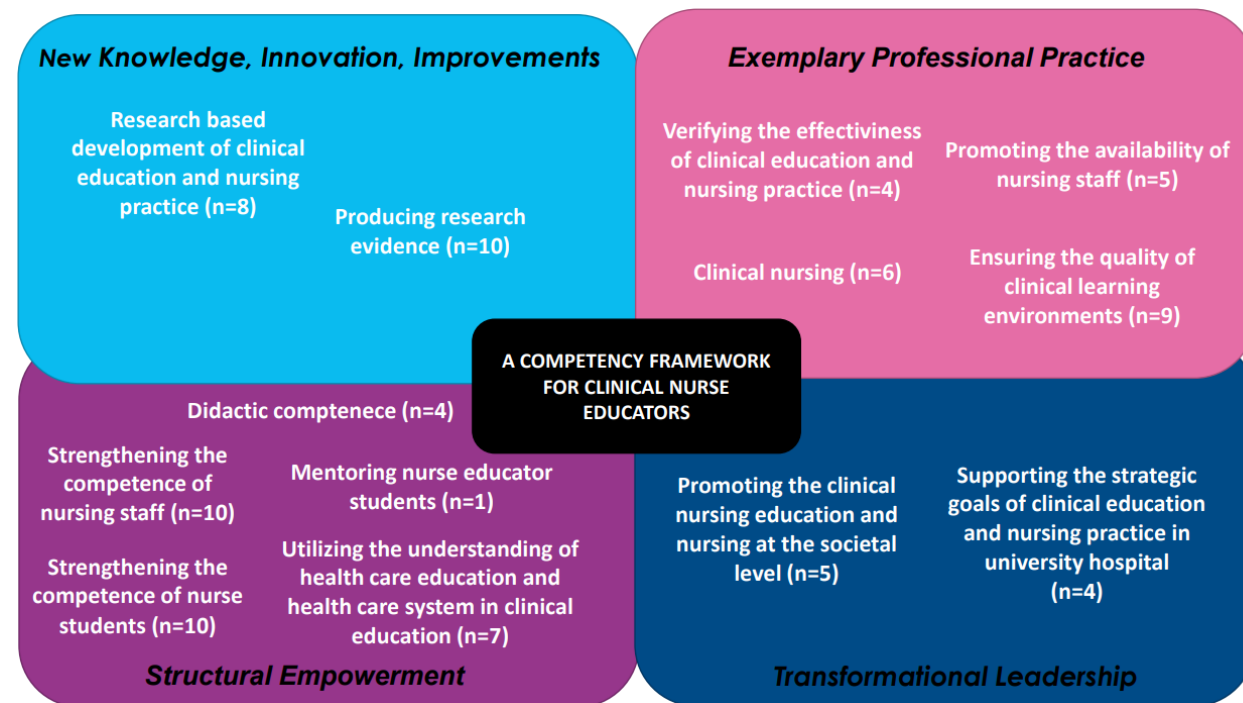
# SOME EXAMPLES



- Establishing a research project with a focus on exploring the outcomes of evidence-based practices
- Coordinating national benchmarking of nursing-sensitive outcomes (15 organisations); incl. a multicentre research project
- Coordinating **national benchmarking network for quality of the student supervision**
- Coordinating the networks of HUS Clinical Nurse Specialists and **HUS Clinical Nurse Educators**
- Providing an on-line course of research-based development for clinical nurses

# EXAMPLES OF SUPPORT FOR EVIDENCE-BASED CLINICAL EDUCATION

- Since 2019, NRC has provided consultation assistance for the planning and implementation of several research and research-based development projects which have aimed to improve clinical education
- for example, establishing and evaluating **a practice to transition program for nurses** and a **competency framework for clinical nurse educators**.



NRC has **provided resources** (between 2019-2024) for research **by granting a total of 28.5 research months** to doctoral researchers (**n=6**) who were/are conducting educational research.

- **Published PhD-dissertations:**

- Kirsi Lindfors (2023): A new graduate registered nurse's professional competence development during the transition period - hypothetical model for good orientation

- **On-going PhD-studies:**

- Jaana Kotila: Supporting RN transition to practice
- Netta Pohjamies: Nurse preceptors' orientation competence: 360-evaluation
- Laura Hako: Clinical nurse specialist capabilities
- Marita Knuutila: Limited authorization for student nurses to administer intravenous drugs and fluid therapy to adult patients
- Sara Palander: Developing and testing a peer-learning intervention for nursing students' clinical practice

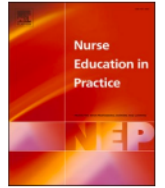




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## Development and psychometric testing of the preceptors' orientation competence instrument (POCI)

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH:  
EMPIRICAL RESEARCH - QUANTITATIVE



WILEY

## Nurse preceptors' orientation competence and associated factors—A cross-sectional study

Netta Pohjamies<sup>1</sup>  | Toni Haapa<sup>2</sup>  | Maria Kääriäinen<sup>3</sup> | Kristina Mikkonen<sup>4</sup> 

# CONCLUSION

- After establishing the Nursing Research Center
  - >> nursing research (incl. educational research) is better coordinated at the HUS Helsinki University Hospital
    - >>> which enables the accumulation of research evidence needed to strengthen evidence-based practices.
- In addition, nurses will be better equipped for both research and research-based development skills, which ultimately enables fostering clinical excellence.

*¡MUCHAS  
GRACIAS  
POR SU  
INTERÉS!*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
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