Leadership and research activities of nurse practitioners: Ireland and Australia

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Leadership and Research Activities of Nurse Practitioners: Ireland and Australia

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Introduction: Nurse Practitioners (NP) are identified as the ideal conduit to transform healthcare delivery internationally. Healthcare transformation requires the application of leadership and research skills. The literature to date has limited information on NPs as leaders or researchers in the nursing profession.

Aims & Objectives:
- Establish the leadership and research activities of NPs in Ireland and Australia.
- Establish if there is a difference in leadership and research activities of NPs in Ireland and Australia.
- Identify if there is a relationship between leadership and research activities.

Methods:
An electronic cloud-based survey was developed by amalgamating two separate survey tools to measure NP work and research. Leadership activities previously identified in Ireland were included in a Likert scale. The survey was distributed to NPs in Ireland and Australia between May and June 2017.

Conclusion: Nurse Practitioners in both Ireland and Australia identify themselves as leaders of the nursing profession. NP work practices are primarily focused on provision of direct patient care. Research activity is lacking among NPs. Leadership ability influences research outcomes for NPs in both Ireland and Australia.