**Supplemental Digital Content Item 1: Review Protocol**

**Linkages between Nursing and the Quality of Patient Care: A Two Year Comparison**

**Question to be answered:** What is the evidence of linkages between nursing care and quality and how does the evidence differ in the years 2004 and 2009?

**Databases:** The following eightdatabases were selected to represent work published in diverse disciplines: Pubmed, Scopus, Proquest ABI, PsycINFO, Sociological Abstracts, Econlit, CINAHL, and Ovid Medline.

**Key Words:** “nurse” (or “nursing”) and “quality” (or “patient satisfaction,” “patient outcome(s),” or “care process”).

**Inclusion Criteria:**

1. Research conducted in the United States
2. Papers written in English
3. Published in peer reviewed journals
4. Papers that included an abstract
5. Primary or secondary data analysis
6. Examined a link between nursing and quality of care

**Exclusion Criteria:**

1. Detailed protocol papers with no measurement of outcomes
2. Papers designed to report on psychometric evaluation or development of instruments
3. Case studies

**Search strategy:**

For each database:

* 1. All combinations of search terms in manuscript titles, abstracts or key words
  2. Remove duplicates

1. Combine database lists generated
   1. Remove duplicates
2. Examined the papers’ titles, abstracts, keywords, publications, and author affiliations and included papers if the analyses examined linkages between nursing and quality

**Extraction:**

* Study design (Observation, Quasi-experimental, Experimental)
* Authorship team (nurse order)
* Journal Information (title, impact and discipline
* Study aim (categorize, nurse category)
* Study Design [sample, setting, sampling design, detail (pilot, feasibility), disparities)]
* Rigor (random assignment, control group, intent to treat, fidelity, number of sites)
* Analysis (Quantitative, qualitative, power analysis, cross-sectional or longitudinal)
* Study results (evidence for link of nursing and quality)
* Outcomes (category of quality)
* Cost analysis (economist on team)
* Dissemination (impact of publishing journals)
* Funding source
* Intervention study (intervention detail, multicomponent, multidisciplinary, multisite vs. single site nurses role in intervention, type of nurse, number of interventionists, training, protocol, treatment fidelity.)