


**Q:** I know that NCSBN does research that examines a variety of issues including practice analyses, but do they ever fund projects being conducted by researchers outside the organization?

**A: Yes!** The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) is the first nursing organization to provide external funding for research that is specifically related to the advancement of nursing regulation and is establishing a \$5,000,000 grant program that will provide funding to investigators wishing to promote the mission and vision of the organization.



For example, experts researching major aviation accidents found that crew members often did not alert their team as soon as they became aware of dangerous circumstances because they did not feel empowered to do so. It is also noted that there was a high incidence of major accidents the initial time that the crew flew together due to inadequate preflight briefing.

The first trial exercise involved the Family Medicine faculty, residents and nurses conducting an ambulatory code in the Virtual Hospital with a virtual patient. It is rare for a patient to experience cardiac arrest in a doctor's office, but when this does occur, it can catch everyone unprepared. The nursing staff and residents all felt reassured after practicing for this event with a simulated patient in a totally safe environment.

The second exercise was very ambitious, focusing on the transfer of patients from one area of the hospital to another. The average length of stay in teaching hospitals in the U.S. is approximately four days, with patients moving between levels of care an average of four times during their stay. Therefore, developing protocols and procedures for the hand over of care is paramount.

In this practice exercise, three teams were involved: the emergency medicine team, the cardiology team and the intensive care unit team. In the simulated ER, a

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