



**University
of Victoria**

Graduate Studies

Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

of

MERRY-JO LEVERS

MN (University of Alberta, 2004)

BSc (University of Alberta, 2001)

**“Nursing Practice Change:
An Interpretive Description Study of Nurses Working in Qatar”**

School of Nursing

Monday, June 3, 2019

10:00 A.M.

Clearihue Building

Room B017

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Noreen Frisch, School of Nursing, University of Victoria (Co-Supervisor)

Dr. Kelli Stajduhar, School of Nursing, UVic (Co-Supervisor)

Dr. Anne Bruce, School of Nursing, UVic (Member)

Dr. Elizabeth Borycki, School of Health Information Science, UVic (Outside Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Nelly Oelke, School of Nursing, University of British Columbia, Okanagan

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Daniel Bub, Department of Psychology, UVic

Abstract

Clinical nursing practice is on the cusp of significant and unrelenting change amid globalization, austerity measures and technological advancements as the world moves out of the industrial age into the knowledge age. With advances in technology, theory and research, the potential changes to future nursing practice are unlimited. Understanding the process nurses undertake to change their practice in light of these predicted trends is critical if outcomes for patients are to be safe and effective. Yet, there was a paucity of published research that investigates the process of nursing practice change. Thus, the purpose of this study was to describe the process registered nurses undertake to change their clinical practice. The study used an interpretive description methodology and involved interviewing 15 registered nurses with various backgrounds and experience in Doha, Qatar. Data were analyzed using constant comparison methods, simultaneous data collection and analysis, and intensive memoing. The findings revealed an overall theme of 'easing the dis-ease', in addition to three sub-themes: disruption, actioning and stabilizing. The study provides important insights into how nurses change their clinical practice. A significant contribution of this study is the role of the individual in changing nursing practice.