

As a recipient of the Leonie Sidebottom study grant I was able to use my funding to attend a course – Foundations of Qualitative Methodologies, Data Collection and Analysis run by The Australian Consortium for Social & Political Research Inc. from the 29th January – February 2nd 2018. The course was facilitated by Professor Carol Grbich , Flinders University SA, at the University of Melbourne. The course composed of a 5 day program that included practical sessions that focused on qualitative research styles and design, data collection techniques such as interviewing and conducting focus groups, data analysis and management, interpretation and display of data. The knowledge and practical skills gained by attending this course have consolidated my knowledge in this area and have assisted me to conduct my research project on the Role of the Intensive Care Nurse in the Medical Emergency Team (MET). The primary aim of my study is the gain a greater understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the ICU on the MET. I have almost completed the data collection phase of my project which involved a period of participant observation followed by face to face interviews with ICU nurses. The practical exercises conducted during the course in relation to observation and interviewing techniques provided me with the knowledge, skill and confidence to undertake these methods during my own research project. In addition, I have been able to apply the principles of thematic analysis and coding to the preliminary analysis of my data.

I am grateful to the Committee for supporting me to undertake this course and look forward to completing my own research project – The Role of the Intensive Care Nurse on the Medical Emergency Team by the end of 2020.