

Appendix B

Table 1

Summary of Selected Articles

Author (Year), Country	Study Aim	Study Design	Sample	Measures	Interventions	Major Findings
Antill Keener et al. (2023), U.S.	Explore nurses' perceptions of caring for patients with substance use disorder and identify necessary resources	Cross-sectional	488 nurses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality-Caring Model American Nurses Association cultural competency and pain assessment 	An anonymous 12-item survey and three open-ended questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nurses encounter difficulties tending to patients with substance use disorders within their first year of practice. These difficulties include pain management, alternative strategies, and determining contacts for addressing problems.
Dion et al. (2023), U.S.	To determine whether targeted anti-stigma education improved nursing students' application of harm reduction education in the clinical setting	Experimental 2-group repeated measures survey study	128 nursing students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and Drug Problems Questionnaire (DDPPQ) Perceived Stigma of Substance Abuse Scale (PSAS) An author-designed survey asking students to self-report harm-reduction education 	The study involved three surveys taken over three semesters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in the traditional track cared for more people with substance use disorder than those in the accelerated track. Referral for treatment was the most common education provided, whereas information related to injection drug use was the least commonly taught education.
Dion & Griggs, (2020), U.S.	Determine if a 4-hour anti-stigma training improves student nurse attitudes toward people with substance use disorder	Nonrandomized quasi-experimental	126 nursing students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and Drug Problems Perception Questionnaire (DDPPQ) Perceived Stigma of Substance Abuse Scale (PSAS) Marlowe-Crowne Social Desirability Scale 	Participants completed the three questionnaires at the start and end of the study.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-stigma intervention improved attitudes and reduced perceived stigma in nursing students toward individuals with substance use disorder.
Grewal et al. (2015), Canada	To determine the prevalence of illicit drug use in Vancouver hospitals and investigate the demographic and behavioural factors that contribute to drug use among persons who use drugs	Cross-sectional	1,028 hospitalized patients	Simple logistic regression was used to identify the associations between demographic and behavioural characteristics.	Participants completed a harmonized interviewer-administered questionnaire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 44% of the 1028 hospitalized participants reported drug use. Drugs were most used in in-patient washrooms, smoking areas, and in hospital rooms. Common reasons for illicit drug use in hospitals include seeking use, withdrawal symptoms, and boredom.
Harling, (2017), UK	Reports on a study that measured the attitudes of student nurses toward illicit drug users and compared their attitudes to other health and social care students at the start of their training	Attitudinal study	153 nursing students, 28 midwifery students, 44 social work students, 16 clinical psychology students, 67 health and social care students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug and Drug problems Perceptions Questionnaire (DDPPQ) The Standardized Substance Abuse Attitude Survey (SSAAS) Attitude Towards Substance Misusers (ATSMQ-21) Scale Alcohol Problems Perceptions Questionnaire (AAPPQ) 	Students filled out a 10-item questionnaire during the first 15 minutes of a lecture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student nurses had less tolerance toward illicit drug users. Clinical psychology trainees scored more consistently on the attitude scale than student nurses.

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Horner et al. (2019), U.S.	To evaluate nurses' attitudes, perceptions, and training requirements when caring for inpatients with opioid use disorder	Qualitative	22 nurses	One-on-one interviews were conducted with recruited nurses via email and snowball sampling.	Semi-structured interview guide	<p>Six themes emerged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stigma: This societal construct influencing every facet of workplace dynamics and interactions between staff and patients. • Pain: Nurses expressed an internal struggle regarding pain management, fearing that administering pain medication could contribute to patient addiction. • Burnout: A sustained reaction to ongoing emotional and interpersonal stress, marked by feelings of hopelessness and apathy. • Communication: Effective communication among all care team members is paramount to preventing staff division and ensuring an appropriate and cohesive care plan. • Safety: Nurses discussed the need for security measures to manage instances where patients or visitors displayed aggressive behaviour. • Opportunities: Areas for care improvement include defining post-discharge transitions, standardizing care protocols, offering emotional support, and improving education.
Neville & Roan, (2014), U.S.	To explore nurses' perceptions of caring for hospitalized medical-surgical patients who have comorbid substance abuse/dependence	Qualitative	24 nurses, on 5 inpatient units	Inductive approach	Research questions regarding nurse's perception of caring for hospitalized patients with SUD	<p>Four themes emerged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ethical duty to care: involves delivering nursing services with advocacy, compassion, and empathy to ensure fair and impartial care, irrespective of the patient's health condition. • Negative perceptions: Nurses feel intolerance, anger, and are overwhelmed by their needs, with a critical aspect being their perception of manipulation. • Need for education: Nurses felt unprepared and lacked knowledge in handling patients with substance abuse/dependence and psychiatric disorders, which they considered as specialized areas requiring specific expertise. • Sympathy and pain management: Nurses were sympathetic toward patients and families dealing with substance abuse/dependence. However, they expressed uncertainty when evaluating pain and deciding on pain relief due to concerns about the validity of patients' pain reports and the potential effects of nursing actions on substance abuse/dependence.

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Nolan et al. (2022), Canada	To describe program utilization patterns, characterize overdose prevention site visits, and evaluate overdose events and related outcomes	Retrospective Review	11,673 patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant measures include hospital inpatient status, intravenous access line used for drug injection, and the substance used at the overdose prevention site. Program measures include the number of visits and overdose events and outcomes over time. 	Retrospective chart review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overdose prevention site is a hospital-based harm reduction initiative with no fatal overdoses, and the use of the site increased over time among both groups. 20% of visits were hospital inpatient. With overdoses are more common among in-hospital inpatients compared to community clients.
Pauly et al. (2015), U.S.	To understand cultural safety in acute care settings for individuals with substance use disorder	Qualitative	15 patients, 12 nurses, 7 managers and clinical educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual interviews Observations Reviewing hospital policy documents 	The interviews covered experiences in giving and receiving care, understanding comfort and safety in healthcare, as well as barriers and enablers to care.	<p>Three themes emerged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stigmatized views of illicit substance use as a personal failing: Patients feared being labelled as “drug addicts” upon hospital admission and were concerned that such labels would affect the quality of care they received. Illicit drug use as a criminal act: Patients feel watched in hospitals. At the same time, nurses differentiate between illicit drug use and criminalization, suggesting that the current criminal justice approach may contribute to drug-related crimes. A disease of addiction: Patients believed they weren’t solely passive victims of disease, recognizing addiction as something not chosen but which can overpower their lives. In contrast, nurses view addiction as a disease that exerts control.
Perera et al. (2022), U.S.	Integrating harm reduction education and equipment distribution in US hospitals for evidence-based addiction care	Mixed methods	195 patients	Needs assessment, to determine patient harm reduction needs	Harm reduction education and kits in inpatient hospital settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The intervention improved hospital-based addiction care, educated and engaged patients, staff, and clinicians, and reduced stigma. During a 12-month period, 195 harm reduction kits were provided.