



## DRAFT THESIS PROPOSAL

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9 **Research Question:** To map the literature examining nurses collected triage narratives: where  
10 data has been generated, what types of literature examine the issue; and to describe author  
11 reported purposes and conclusions.

12 **Review Method:** Scoping Review

13 **Definitions:**

- 14 **1. Emergency Department:** There is a surprising lack of consistency in terminology.  
15 Emergency care can occur in hospital-based emergency departments and freestanding  
16 emergency departments and urgent care centers. They can be referred to in many ways,  
17 these include: Emergency Room (ER), Urgent Care Center, Accident and Emergency  
18 (A&E), Emergency ward, casualty station.[1]  
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- 20 **2. Unstructured narrative data:** These are data that are not collected in a categorical  
21 manner; rather in a narrative free form. These can be viewed as analogous to a “chart  
22 note”. There are multiple phrases used for this, most commonly: Summary or narrative  
23 Free-text or text, Presenting complaint, Chief Complaints, Syndrome/symptom,  
24 description(s).[2]  
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- 26 **3. Primary Population:** The primary population of interest are nurses. Nurses for the  
27 purpose of screening include all skill levels (or bands) of nursing, these include:  
28 Registered Nurses (NP), Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPN), Licenced Practical Nurses  
29 (LPN).  
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- 31 **4. Language and Full Text availability:** Only full text English-language literature will be  
32 included; conference proceeding and abstracts will be excluded.

33 **References**

- 34 [1] Khangura JK, Flodgren G, Perera R, Rowe BH, Shepperd S. Primary care professionals  
35 providing non-urgent care in hospital emergency departments. *Cochrane Database of Systematic*  
36 *Reviews*. 2012(11).
- 37 [2] McKenzie K, Scott DA, Campbell MA, McClure RJ. The use of narrative text for injury  
38 surveillance research: a systematic review. *Accident Analysis & Prevention*. 2010 Mar  
39 1;42(2):354-63.