

NR 541 Week 2 Discussion: NI as a Specialty

Which of the NI functional areas described in *Nursing Informatics: Scope and Standards of Practice* best match your aspirations for nursing informatics practice and why? How did your self-ranking reflect those functional areas, and what if anything, do you need to do or learn more about to work in those functional areas?

The functional areas of nursing informatics which interest me most and best match my aspirations for nursing informatics practice are quality and performance improvement as well as research and evaluation. These areas interest me most because of their diverse and variable nature. I feel like these areas of nursing informatics have endless opportunity for growth and development and that there are so many ways and avenues to explore. All the functional areas in nursing informatics co-exist and overlap one another in some way. Quality, performance improvement, research and evaluation collaborate to provide evidence-based practices to improve patient outcomes and quality of care.

For example, Yen (2018) stated the importance of integrating nursing researchers into developing informatics programs to create collaborative research practice. Collaborative research is essential to the creation and dissemination of new knowledge to support evidence-based practice (Yen, 2018). Quality and performance improvement also strive to create and disseminate