

# **CLINICAL RESEARCH**

FOR THE DOCTOR OF  
NURSING PRACTICE

THIRD EDITION

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#### Production Credits

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Executive Editor: Amanda Martin  
Associate Acquisitions Editor: Rebecca Stephenson  
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Product Fulfillment Manager: Wendy Kilborn  
Composition and Project Management: S4Carlisle  
Publishing Services

Cover Design: Kristin E. Parker  
Rights & Media Specialist: Wes DeShano  
Media Development Editor: Troy Liston  
Cover Image (Title Page, Part Opener,  
Chapter Opener): © Sunny/DigitalVision/Getty.  
Printing and Binding: Edwards Brothers Malloy  
Cover Printing: Edwards Brothers Malloy

#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Terry, Allison J., author.

Title: Clinical research for the doctor of nursing practice / Allison J. Terry.

Description: Edition 3. | Burlington, MA : Jones & Bartlett Learning, [2018]  
| Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2017016099 | ISBN 9781284117585

Subjects: | MESH: Education, Nursing, Graduate--methods | Nursing

Research--methods | Nurse Clinicians--education | Research Design

Classification: LCC RT75 | NLM WY 18.5 | DDC 610.73071/1--dc23 LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2017016099>

6048

Printed in the United States of America

21 20 19 18 17 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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# Preface

Today's modern society is changing so rapidly that in many ways it seems to be more virtual than reality, thanks in part to ever-expanding technology that allows us to make the community grow from our backyard into the neighboring country. When these aspects are combined with a patient's ever-changing healthcare need, the result can be bewildering for nurses trying to prepare themselves as leaders in the healthcare arena. That preparation can come from a combination of evidence-based practice and the education preparation found in the doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degree. The DNP-prepared nurse is proving to be valuable in a variety of settings, and in reflection of that, the third edition of the text includes a discussion of the role of the DNP-educated nurse in academia.

For the nurse who has been dedicated to a bedside practice and now is conscientious enough to seek the additional validation derived from the DNP degree, the capstone project can be a source of anxiety. It is the hope that this text will serve as a guidebook for the nurse who is navigating through that process as well as a compass that will assist in avoiding obstacles, developing realistic timelines, and setting achievable goals.

The third edition of the book continues the focus on the capstone project. To expedite the process of developing the project, new information is included describing the selection of a theoretical framework. To expedite the implementation of the project, information is provided on recent updates to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

It is the hope of the author that this text will assist the DNP student who is intending to serve as a catalyst for change in the healthcare community. May it serve as a compass for the nurse who is uncertain as to which fork in the road to the capstone project will be most helpful.

