**Progress report for Oxford Academic Health Partners Charity Awards**

**Date**: 15 May 2023

**Project Name**: First year of Doctorate of Nursing in Oxford Brookes University (A five-year programme aiming to foster independent clinical nurse researcher)

**Name of award recipient:** Yuhan Zhang (Advanced Nurse Practitioner in Virtual Ward, John Radcliffe Hospital)

**Academic achievement in the year from Sep 2021 to Jan 2022:**

**The award helped me to pay against the tuition for my doctorate of nursing in Oxford Brookes University for the first year of the programme. The award enabled me to complete four taught modules, including nursing concept, researcher development framework, evidence-based practice, and health research landscape.**

* **Completion of the module of nursing concept and formulation of the assignment for publication**

I learned systematically nursing theory in history and linked this to contemporary nursing practice to see how the nursing theory is useful in guiding actual nursing practices. I participated in in-depth discussion with peer students in class and gained a deep understanding into the pressing issues facing nursing as a discipline.

For the assignment I wrote an essay which examined the practice of advanced nurse practitioner and used a nursing theory/model to analyse its role in blending medicine and nursing in attempt to address the identify confusion which face these role holders. The article called for advanced nurse practitioners to stay rooted in their nursing role and grounded on holistic care models, to provide patient-centred care and promote better patient satisfaction. This assignment is currently under editing for future publication.

* **Ongoing development in align with researcher development framework**

To eventually gain the capability to be an independent nurse researcher, I need to develop wide range of qualities and skill sets, from academic literacy and numeracy to personal characteristics (perseverance, critical thinking, etc), to networking and collaboration. This researcher development framework offers me a standard or benchmark to reflect on my learning needs and find the resources to develop myself as a researcher.

Through the reflection and action plan formulated to improve my researching capacity to become an independent nursing researcher, I participated in a few writing retreats and had mentors who guided me in my academic writing and helped me in critical thinking when writing. This increased my confidence in pursuing further academic achievement, and my understanding in translating research into practice to benefit patient care and safety.

* **Completion of health research landscape and evidence-based practice**

I engaged in the acquisition of the knowledge of nursing research methodology, ethics underpinning research activities, research impact, and patient and public involvement. This shapes my understanding of ethical issues, not only in research, but also in health care frontline settings. It founded my basic understanding of research methodologies and paved my preparation to progress to next stage in my research career.

**I am very grateful and humbled by this award. It helped me enormously in 2021 to ease the financial burden of me and my family and enable me to pursue my research dream and aspiration. This knowledge and insight gained by completing my first year of doctorate of nursing, not only transformed my understanding of nursing as a discipline, as an art form and science, but also transformed my clinical practice which directly affects my decisions relating to patient care and the quality of care.**