Abstract:

Link nurses have been used to support many areas of specialist nursing practice since the 1980s. They add value as they provide a practical and timely way of sharing information and knowledge and raising awareness with the wider multidisciplinary team. One strategy to improve standards and sustain improvements in the care of vascular access devices was to develop an intravascular link nurse network: ‘Finding the missing link’. The link nurses are supported to attend quarterly masterclasses underpinned by the current evidence base. The masterclasses provide forums and workshops for learning, sharing initiatives, processes, progress and feedback. Results from the 2018/2019 sessions evaluation showed that 80% of the link nurses scored the workshops as excellent, 14% good, less than 1% fair and poor, and 4% did not provide an answer. Overall, 87% of link nurses were extremely likely to recommend the programme, 13% were likely to recommend it, and 93% found it helpful in their personal and professional growth. The network with supporting masterclasses has proven to be an effective strategy within the Trust.

Reference: