Measuring Clinical Decision Support Influence on Evidence-Based Nursing Practice

Susan Cortez, BSN, MBA/HCM, PhD, Mary S. Dietrich, PhD, and Nancy Wells, DNSc, RN, FAAN

To achieve the best patient outcomes, meet patient expectations, and achieve government mandates for improving patient outcomes and increasing the quality of health care, integrating the highest level of evidence into practice is integral (Berner, 2009; Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine [HMD], 2012; Mitchell, Beck, Hood, Moore, & Tanner, 2007). Clinical decision support (CDS) is an intervention specifically designed to increase evidence-based practice (EBP) integration by displaying pertinent evidence when healthcare professionals and patients make healthcare decisions (Brokel, 2009). Healthcare organizations can implement CDS in various ways, depending on technology capabilities. CDS can be provided via email or paper reminders and also can be placed in computerized physician order entry or documentation software.