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Extra investment in nursing research can reap even more excellence

Commenting on the results for the Nursing and Midwifery subject unit of the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008), Professor Ann Topping, Deputy Chair of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Research Society, said,

“These results show the benefits that even modest investment in high quality nursing and midwifery research can achieve. This kind of work enables a better understanding of the needs of patients and their carers. Since the last assessment, the UK has many more active nurse researchers of a national and indeed, international standing with standards continuing to rise.

“A lot of hard work has been put into the high quality research that’s been entered into the RAE 2008. These individuals and those less visible nurse researchers who are returned in other subjects have made a significant contribution to fostering high quality interdisciplinary research.

“We also commend the extraordinary work undertaken by the RAE Panel in this subject area. Having been invited to recommend RAE panel members, we would like to congratulate them on the rigour and diligence they applied to this task. The calibre of the RAE Panel reflects the development of research leadership capacity amongst the profession.”

Ends

Notes to editors

For further information, interviews or illustrations please contact the RCN Media Office on 0207 647 3633, press.office@rcn.org.uk or visit <http://www.rcn.org.uk/news/mediacentre.php>

Royal College of Nursing (RCN) is the voice of nursing across the UK and is the largest professional union of nursing staff in the world. The RCN promotes the interest of nurses and patients on a wide range of issues and helps shape healthcare policy by working closely with the UK Government and other national and international institutions, trade unions, professional bodies and voluntary organisations.