

# **The Relationship between Emotional Intelligence, Self-efficacy, and Clinical Decision-making among Critical Care Nurses in Jordan**

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## **Abstract**

Nurses with high self-efficacy and emotional intelligence have the capability to apply effective clinical decision-making. Meanwhile, there is a need to explore the relationship between self-efficacy, emotional intelligence, and clinical decision-making which reflects the maturity of professionalism and competencies among nurses particularly critical care nurses. Thus, this study aimed to assess the relationship between emotional intelligence, self-efficacy, and clinical decision-making among critical care nurses in Jordan. A descriptive correlational design was conducted on a sample of 407 nurses who work in critical care units in government, private, and educational health sectors. The data were collected using Wong Law Emotional Intelligence Scale (WLEIS), New General Self-Efficacy Scale (NGSE), and Clinical Decision Making Nursing Scale (CDMNS), in addition to demographic data. The results showed that the participants reported high levels of emotional intelligence ( $M= 5.22, SD=0.18$ ) and self-efficacy ( $M= 3.88, SD=0.518$ ), and a high level of clinical decision-making ( $M=3.71, SD =0.481$ ). There was a significant positive correlation between clinical decision-making, emotional intelligence ( $r=0.322, p < .001$ ) and self-efficacy ( $r=0.348, p < .01$ ). The factors influencing clinical decision-making were emotional intelligence ( $B= .170, p < 0.01$ ), self-efficacy ( $B=.252, p < 0.01$ ), gender ( $B= -.132, p < 0.01$ ),

age ( $B = .175, p < 0.05$ ), and work experience ( $B = .170, p < 0.05$ ). Therefore, it's important to encourage and continuously implement strategies for critical care nurses to enhance their emotional intelligence and self-efficacy to improve their clinical decision-making skills in order to provide high-quality patients care. Also, factors influencing clinical decision-making should be taken into consideration when developing these strategies.

**Keywords:** Clinical decision-making, critical care nurses, emotional intelligence self-efficacy