The concept of family presence (FP) during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) has been studied and debated as far back as 1987. This concept continues to be debated among nurses. Literature suggests that the previously surveyed sample of nurses, which focused on acute care nurses, should be expanded to include nurses caring for patients in all hospital care areas including general medicine, pediatrics, and cardiac outpatient rehabilitation. The purpose of this study is to explore current nurses’ beliefs and experiences about FP during CPR. This study is a replication and expansion of Knott and Kee’s (2005) study. The study will be conducted at a basic level of specific qualitative descriptive methodological design which allows for selection of a broad area of inquiry while maintaining a limited sample size. The target population will be nurses from a variety of hospital care settings. Inclusion criteria will be that nurses must have at least four years of clinical experience and are likely to be either witnesses to or participants in CPR procedures where families were on-site. Furthermore, nurses in the sample will represent multiple types of work responsibilities and locales including staff nurses, charge nurses and managers. Semi-structured interviews using open-ended questions, will be conducted and focus on the nurses’ current beliefs and experiences regarding FPDR. Data will be analyzed using the constant comparative method and will look for
themes. Findings from this study will contribute to the design of interventions for nurses to actively participate in the implementation of a hospital FPDR program.