Coronavirus (CV) is a new, highly contagious virus spread person-to-person. Healthcare workers are at elevated risk for morbidity and mortality due to exposure to the virus and lack of personal protective equipment. Little is known regarding how these front-line workers are coping with the pandemic, their fears regarding their own safety, and how to balance “duty to care” with their own safety and the safety of their families.

Edson College of Nursing and Health Innovation professor and nurse researcher, Elizabeth Reifsnider, received seed grant funding from ASU’s Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) for a project titled, “Coronavirus (COVID-19): How can Nurses Prepare for Patient Care and Protect Their Own Health?” to determine the professional quality of life, resilience, self-efficacy, and stress of nurses nationally and internationally during the pandemic. Findings will elucidate impacts of the virus on members of this critical work force. Knowledge gained will inform planning by healthcare leadership to promote resilience and self-efficacy among health care workers and also to prevent fatigue, burnout and illness.

“When we know how nurses in different roles perceive risks and what their recommendations are for maintaining the nursing workforce, we can inform leadership about how healthcare institutions should respond,” stated Reifsnider.

Collaborators include Dr. Sean Han and doctoral student Soojung Jo of Edson College. Nurses from across the U.S., Guinea, Japan, Turkey, and China are also involved. Congratulations to this international team!