Assessment of the perception of students towards Nursing profession in selected Colleges

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Abstract: "Life is what our perception is" Nursing is a noble profession and career of day and night service to the public. Today, the conceptualization by students of nursing profession appears uncertain and the question asked by many students is "what is nursing". The present study aimed to assess the perception of students towards nursing profession and to determine the association of the knowledge with selected demographic variables. The research approach was non-experimental with Descriptive Survey Design in selected college of Adesh university, Bathinda, Punjab. The final data was collected after getting formal permission from Principal's of College of Nursing, Medical, Dental and Physiotherapy. Convenience sampling was Technique was used for collecting final data. The data was collected from 200 students 50 from each college of final year batch students by likert scale having 20 statements. Major Findings of the Study revealed that Most of the students (70%) were in age group of 18-21 years. Majority of the subjects (80%) were females and (51.5%) were living in urban place. Majority of the subjects (96%) were unmarried. Majority of subject's parents (30%) were having senior secondary education. Findings of present study showed that 78% of Nursing students were having favourable perception towards their profession followed by 25% of Medical and 28% of Dental and 15% of Physiotherapy. However 35% of Physiotherapy students were having Moderately favourable perception followed by 20% and 22% in Dental and Medical students respectively and only 1% Nursing students perceive unfavourable perception towards nursing profession. .Computed chi square values of level of perception of students towards nursing profession with demographic variables were found to be statistically non significant as 0.05 level of significance, so there is no significant association of the level of perception of students towards nursing profession with demographic variables

Key Words: Perception, Students, Nursing profession

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I. Introduction:

In India, the picture of nursing profession is changing day by day, while nursing profession still suffers a mild degree of so stigma in certain states of the country¹. Student's perceptions of nursing are based on visual images that are often limited to bedside care and drug administration instead of that of a highly skilled and well educated nursing professional with an important role to play in heathcare². In India, the picture of Nursing Profession is changing day by, day, while Nursing Profession still suffers a mild degree of so called stigma in certain states of the country. It is very essential that we must target a younger population. If we have to attract younger students, we must emphasize lifelong learning & possibilities that a bound with further education & credentialing.

So it is high time assess the students perception of effectiveness of existing clinical learning environment and students perception in their profession in nursing institution³. Adherence to these goals would ensure a constant stream of motivated nurses who possess the preferred professional and clinical competencies for practices⁴

II. Objectives

- 1. To assess the perception of students towards the nursing profession.
- 2. To find the association between perception of students towards the nursing profession with their selected socio demographic variables.

III. Materials And Methods:

The research approach adopted for the study was non-experimental with descriptive survey design. The present study was conducted on fifty final year students from each batch of all colleges (Nursing, Medical, Dental and Physiotherapy) to assess the level of perception of students towards the nursing profession and

sample was selected by using purposive sampling technique. The tools developed and used for data collection was Structured Knowledge Questionnaire and the technique was paper- pencil method.

Section I: The First part of the tool consist information about the variables which includes such as Age ,Gender, Religion ,Place of living ,Marital status ,Education status of father ,Education status of mother, Occupation of father, Occupation of mother, Monthly family income, Presence of family member in nursing , Place of residence. **Section II:** It comprised of 20 statements, the modified likert scale was used to assess the level of perception of students towards the nursing profession.

CRITERIAN MEASURE

| Level of perception | Range | | |
|-----------------------|-------|--|--|
| Favourable | >75 | | |
| Moderately favourable | 50-75 | | |
| unfavourable | <50 | | |

The tool was given to nine experts for their valuable, opinion and suggestion. The content validity was judged and their valuable suggestions were obtained and tool was modified. The final tool with 20 items finalized. To test the reliability of the tool Test-retest method was calculated and it is found to be 0.80. Hence the tool was reliable.

IV. Results: TABLE 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of level of perception of students towards nursing profession N = 200

| Level of perception | Nursing(n=50) | | Medical (n=50) | | Dental (n=50) | | Physiotherapy | | Overall (N=200) | |
|---------------------|---------------|----|----------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|-----------------|----|
| | f % | | f % | | f % | | (n=50) | | f % | |
| | | | | | | | f | % | | |
| Favourable | 39 | 78 | 25 | 50 | 28 | 56 | 15 | 30 | 107 | 54 |
| Moderately | | | | | | | | | | |
| favourable | 10 | 20 | 22 | 44 | 20 | 40 | 35 | 70 | 87 | 43 |
| Unfavourable | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 01 | 02 | 03 | 06 | 02 | 04 | 00 | 00 | 06 | 03 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

Table 1 depicts that 78% of Nursing students were having favourable perception towards their profession followed by 25% of Medical and 28% of Dental and 15% of Physiotherapy. However 35% of Physiotherapy students were having Moderately favourable perception followed by 20% and 22% in Dental and Medical students respectively and only 1% Nursing students perceive unfavourable perception towards nursing profession.

Chi square value showing the significance with Age, Gender, Education of mother and father and presence of family member in nursing with level of perception of students towards nursing profession.

IMPLICATIONS

Nursing administration: Nurse Administrator can make an effort to conduct In service education program for nursing students so that to trained them for providing opportunity to serve humanity

Nursing education: All the nursing students can be taught about different perception towards their profession.

Nursing research: Present study generates specific literature for students as well as trained nurses to change their perception towards their profession.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1 A similar study can be conducted with large sample.

2. The study can be conducted in different settings such as school of nursing.

3. A comparative study can be conducted between different years

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ETHICAL CONSIDERATION: Ethical approval to conduct the study was obtained from Institutional Ethical Committee of Adesh University, Bathinda, Punjab. Written informed consent was obtained from the study subjects regarding their willingness to participate in the research project.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: There is no conflict of interest.

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