

SCIENTIFIC PAPER PRESENTATION : PLENARY SESSION I
Sub-theme: Change is a Challenge : Student Nurses Perspective

**Keynote Address: Jyotsna R Pandit, President, TNAI Maharashtra State Branch
602 Chariot Building, Navghar Road, Mulund (E), Mumbai - 400081 (Maharashtra)**

World constantly keeps changing. It is even said that in the universe, the only constant is CHANGE. A number of cultural, technological, political and social forces are shaping the destiny of the nursing profession. Students entering in the nursing profession are called upon to equip themselves with adequate competencies to meet the challenging advances that are occurring in the profession and in health care setting. Healthy, committed and competent nurses will then contribute their potentials in attainment of the goal 'Health for all'. Looking at this we need student nurses with good vision and commitment more than ever before.

Nursing possesses a rich history characterised by compassion, dedication, and service. As society's culture continues to experience change the profession of nursing is undergoing continuous evolution. The future of nursing holds myriad of challenges. These challenges include both external forces as well as influences from within the profession as a role of nurse is further defined. Often uncomfortable change is inevitable and should be embraced. It is the responsibility of the nurses to shape the future rather than merely react to the shifts in the tide. Nurses will be positioned to appropriately respond if they adopt an attitude of expectancy, recognising challenges as opportunities and adequately prepare to take an active role in shaping future practice.

Therefore, every student entering into nursing programme continues to face the change. Most nursing students in India, in the first year of nursing education or primarily in a developmental transition period, are in their crucial turning point to adulthood. Compounded on this, transitions is the leap from general education to professional education. Late adolescence and young adult are characterised by changes in their biological functioning, cognitive development, social rules, and social environments. During this multifaceted transition, the nursing students are required to make adjustments to challenges of life, pressures of education, expectation of parents, friends, teachers and patients.

Student nurse is like clay, raw and vulnerable but ready to mold. It is the responsibility of nurse educators to transform her into efficient, compassionate, flexible and resourceful nurse who is ready to provide comprehensive care while accepting the

challenge of a change throughout her profession.

Challenges faced by students in hostel

- Unfamiliarity with local language
- Unfamiliarity with cultural pattern
- Uncertainty of hostel life to adaptation
- Homesickness

Challenges faced in the classroom

- Communication barrier
- Multiple subjects and terminology
- Increased number of assignments
- Increased number of theory hours
- Lack of proper physical arrangement of classroom
- Crammed syllabus

Challenges faced in the clinical area

- Disparity between what is taught and practiced
- Disparity in clinical posting
- Physically demanding work schedule
- Functional duties
- Risk of occupational hazards
- Rotation duty
- Lack of clinical facility which leads to only being observer at some place
- Student status not being provided

Future challenges

- Globalisation
- Braising cost of the health
- Health care complexotic
- Advancing technology
- Demographic changes
- Clinical environment
- Leadership

Student nurses need to accept the above challenges. They need to be protected. Nursing teachers have very important role to play. They have to be their mentors, pillars of

strength. Student should feel comfortable to approach them anytime. If student nurse develops distress anytime due to any reason, she should be able to look at her teachers for necessary support.

Therefore, role of nurse educator is of paramount importance. Effective and efficient nurse educator can successfully transform above challenges faced by students into opportunity. Therefore the role of a nurse educators has also undergone lot of transformation with changing time.

Expectations of students from their teachers:

- Two-way communication
- Approachable
- Good listener
- Friendly but not a friend
- Well prepared, confident, creative
- Pleasant
- Make subject interesting through her / his proper teaching
- Well experienced and qualified teachers

Expectations of students from their teachers in clinical area:

- Supervision
- Guidance
- Demonstration on actual patient
- Incidental and planned clinical teaching
- Appreciating good attempt
- No firing in front of others
- Evaluation and immediate feedback

Expectations of students from their institutions:

- Better hostel, mess facility
- Medical facilities, immunisation
- Safety and security
- Appointing qualified and experienced teaching staff
- Provision of adequate clinical facility
- Provision of facilities for recreation and sports

Expectations of students from governing bodies like nursing council.

- Nursing promotions to be based on written examinations e.g. from staff nurse to sister incharge.

- Renewal of license with written examination
- Check on proliferation of new nursing institutes
- Not to approve nursing institute without basic norms of physical structure, qualified teachers, clinical field etc.

In order to meet these challenges of change effectively by student nurses, detailed orientation and counselling to be done in the initial phase of training and what is expected by them needs to be emphasised again and again. College should have professional counsellor and psychiatrist to help the students who are going through the stress effacing these changes.

College and teachers should provide conducive environment to the students for all round development through various recreational, competitive activities along with studies, encourage them to cultivate their hobbies.

The last and not the least is that teachers need to spend more time for supervision to guide them, to reduce their mental fears, to correct them at the right time, and develop right work culture which will help them to accept any change in the future.

BRIJ CHIKITSA SANSTHAN SCHOOL OF NURSING & PARAMEDICAL COLLEGE

Daresi Road, Mathura - 281 001

Email: brij_chikitsha@rediffmail.com

Website: www.brijchikitshasansthan.org

Ph: 0565-3295954

WANTED

Urgently required for the following posts:

1. Vice Principal - 1

Qualification: MSc Nursing or experience as per INC norms

2. Nursing Tutors - 4

Qualification: BSc Nursing

Salary and other perks, as per experience.

Contact:

Shri KK Agrawal, Director

Ph: 9412286182

Preference will be given to UP State Medical Faculty registered persons