

ABSTRACT

Motivating Factors Influencing the Clinical Performance of Nursing Students

RENU J. WILLIAMS

THE Nursing profession in India has a vital role to play in the national health programmes. This includes preserving health, preventing disease and caring for the sick and disabled. Human resources are supreme to all other resources of a nation. The Nursing profession has the responsibility to produce Nurses with scientific understanding, ability to think and reason, professional skill, judgement and character. The profession of Nursing should be able to attract Nurses who genuinely want to be Nurses. But leaving apart all other factors, it is of paramount importance as to what is the clinical performance of a Nurse. Is she doing justice to the profession she has chosen? Or, what are the blocking points in the way of an effective clinical performance of a Nurse? It is in this background that this study intends to identify those motivating factors which directly influence the clinical performance of Nurses. So, keeping this in mind the Nursing profession has the responsibility to attract those candidates who are genuinely willing to take risk on the job. We do need to find out the motivated students as there is a great need of advanced knowledge in each area of patient care for better performance.

The Problem

A study to identify the motivating factors influencing the clinical performance of Nursing students in CMC, Ludhiana, Punjab was conducted. The author had done this study when she was doing Master of Nursing Course at College of Nursing, CMC, Ludhiana, in partial fulfillment of the requirement of Punjab University during the year 1991-92.

Objectives

The specific objectives of the study

were:

1. To identify the motivating factors among the students for joining Nursing profession.
2. To assess the effect of motivating factors on clinical performance.
3. To study and analyse the relationship between the motivating factors scores and clinical performance scores with the selected factors as: Education of respondent; Family income; and Number of siblings in the Nursing profession.

The study was conducted in College of Nursing, CMC, Ludhiana. This study was a descriptive survey in nature. The sample consisted of Basic Nursing and General Nursing and Midwifery students of the 2nd year and 3rd year classes. A purposive sampling procedure was adopted. The sample consisted of 200 Nursing students, i.e., B. Sc. (54+53=107) and GNM (46+47=93).

The tool used for data collection was personal data questionnaire. Questionnaire, to identify the motivating factors comprised 11 questions and clinical performance in the evaluation forms used in CMC. For this, percentage scores, of recorded clinical performance have been taken from their personal files.

The data collected were tabulated, analysed and interpreted in terms of percentage, mean, standard deviation, 't' value and Chi Square.

The Major Findings

1. Maximum scores were obtained by these who joined Nursing profession by choice and minimum scores were among those who were compelled for this profession.

2. Among motivating factors scores were more for these who wanted to help the sick, influenced by parents, had greater independence after education, were influenced for higher studies, and for whom Tutors are role models and minimum scores were for those compelled by circumstances.
3. Among clinical performance scores were 'education has a significant variable for motivating the person and better clinical performance' but minimum scores were in 'income of parents and number of siblings in Nursing profession'.

Implications

The findings of this study indicate that several implications can be drawn from the findings of the study:

1. More work needs to be done to increase the motivation towards profession before the recruitment.
2. At the time of entrance test, such questions can be put up to know the reasons for joining Nursing.
3. More mass media exposure can lead to motivation.
4. Good career counselling could have been given to them earlier in their education.
5. A conducive atmosphere be created in which faculty members can be seen as significant and admired referents rather than being viewed with suspicion or dislike.

Conclusion

From obtained results the conclusion is that the questionnaire reflects that motivating factors of the person can have an effect on the clinical performance of a Nursing student.