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Nursing in Bangladesh: Prospects and problems

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Prospects and problems of nursing is a burning issue in Bangladesh and currently a subject of discussion. A review article is compiled with various research papers and from the speeches of dignitaries. In Bangladesh, nurses and the nursing profession both are largely neglected. We must find out the root of every problem and solve the problem at the very root. The nurses in Bangladesh are facing a lot of problems including their status, dignity, work benefits, working environment, service guaranty and social stigma. Risk of nursing service is high and nurses have no defined work policies. The prospects of nurses are only seen in international arena. But, there are also a lot of constraints in terms of immigration and recruitment of qualified nurses in Bangladesh. The health care sector is expanding worldwide day-by-day. The shortage of nurses are increasing in comparison to increasing number of patients and population. It is one of the major problems to establish quality patient care due to lack of qualified nurses. A new dimension is to be opened for the nurses in both public and private sector to uphold the position of nurses in Bangladesh.

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A new strategy in nursing education: From hybrid simulation to clinical practice

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Background: Various instructional environments are used in nurse education to develop students' psychomotor and communication skills, to reduce their anxiety levels, and enhance their satisfaction.

Objectives: To examine the effect of three different instructional environments on the development of the students' psychomotor and communication skills and their levels of anxiety and satisfaction.

Methods: A prospective study design with study sample of 60 nursing students was used. Before the implementation of the study, the students' cognitive skills and trait anxiety levels were evaluated. The students were divided into five groups and five nursing activities (Leopold's maneuvers, teaching breastfeeding, family planning education, teaching vulvar self-examination and teaching breast self-examination) were specified for each group. They implemented these nursing activities under the supervision of a faculty member in the nursing skills laboratory (NSL), standardized patient laboratory (SPL) and clinical practice environment (CPE) respectively. In each instructional environment, the students' psychomotor and communication skills, state anxiety levels and satisfactions were evaluated.

Results: The median scores for psychomotor skills [NSL=73.1; SPL=81.5; CPE=88.6] and communication skills [NSL=64.9; SPL=71.6; CPE=79.0] were found to increase as the students went on practicing in a more complicated environment ($p < 0.05$). Similarly, it was determined that the students' anxiety levels decreased as they were practicing incrementally [NSL=33.0; SPL=32.0; CPE=31.0]. As the instructional environments were getting more similar to the reality, the students' satisfaction levels were found to become higher.

Conclusion: Students who deliberately practice in the instructional environments until they are competent developed their psychomotor skills while reducing their anxiety levels, and enhancing their communication skills and satisfaction. For that reason, the development of students' competency areas is thought to be effective for enhancement of patients and health care workers' safety.

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