

Challenges faced and strategies adopted by nurse educators in nursing education.

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Abstract : The study was conducted to find out the challenges faced and strategies adopted by Nurse Educators in Education. Fifty nurse educators from selected schools and colleges of nursing were part of the study. The findings suggested that the Nursing curriculum needs to be re-examined, updated and be ready to adopt changes with changing needs. Competent nurse educators are required who are qualified and clinically expert.

IndexTerms - **Challenges, educators.**

INTRODUCTION:

Nursing is a practice profession and nurses constitute important elements of the health team. Today nursing education and nurse educators are facing unprecedented challenges and work hard to address these challenges. The health care system of the 21st century is complex, technologically rich, ethically challenging and ever changing¹. It is clear that the changing and challenging nursing education needs new model of education to provide quality nursing education. In order to achieve this, nurses must be empowered by education with high standards of excellence. Nurse educators are a pillar for improving student learning, creating interesting teaching learning environment, adopting innovative teaching methods².

To produce nurses prepared to practice in reformed health care , nurse educators need to focus on priority areas like building faculty capacity, deigning new model of academic /practice collaboration and using evidence based research to achieve meaningful transformation in nursing education³.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

A study to assess the strategies used by nurse educators to overcome challenges in nursing education in selected schools and colleges in Mumbai.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

1. To identify the challenges faced by the nurse educators at selected nursing schools and colleges in Mumbai.
2. To assess the strategies used to overcome the challenges by the nurse educators at selected schools and nursing colleges in Mumbai.

METHODOLOGY:

STUDY DESIGN

Descriptive exploratory study

SETTING

The study was conducted in selected schools and colleges of nursing in Mumbai.

POPULATION:

Nurse educators in selected schools & colleges of Nursing.

SAMPLE

Nurse educators in selected schools and colleges of Nursing in Mumbai

SAMPLE SIZE

50 nurse educators

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

Non Probability Convenience sampling was used to obtain participants in the study.

TOOLS

Survey

TECHNIQUE

Self-reporting

INCLUSION CRITERIA

1. Nurse educators teaching in school or colleges of nursing.
2. Nursing educators who are willing to participate in study.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

1. Nurse educators who did not consent to participate in the study.

FINDINGS RELATED TO DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES:

In all 50 nurse educators were included in this study. Among the samples 68% belonged to the age group of 26 to 35 years, 22% were in age group 36 to 45 years, and 10% were in age group of above 46 years. About 14% of the samples had post basic in nursing, 40% had BSc in Nursing and 46% percent had post graduation in nursing. About 30% had 2 to 4 years of clinical experience 22% had 5 to 10 years of clinical experience and 48% had < than 2 years' experience..

FINDINGS RELATED TO CHALLENGES EXISTING IN NURSING EDUCATION:

In relation to challenges existing in nursing education were low standards of student at entry level (54%), difficulty in correlating theory with practice (67%), utilizing information technology (77%), periodical revision of curriculum based on changing trends (39%), 46% Lack of hands on experience of nurse educators, and 40% lack of interest and motivation.

FINDINGS RELATED TO CHALLENGES FACED AND THE STRATEGIES ADOPTED REGARDING STUDENTS IN NURSING EDUCATION:

The study findings revealed that the challenges faced were 64% had language difficulties, 87% found it difficult to cope with complex curriculum, 44% lack of student centred learning, 54% lack of basic knowledge and skills, 34% felt that educators lacked clinical experience.

The study findings revealed that to overcome challenges the following strategies were adopted mentorship 72%, good

learning environment 88%, flexible learning opportunities 45%, advance technology use 63%, guidance and counselling program 65%, Stress and anger management program 78%, and competent teachers 66%.

FINDINGS RELATED TO CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED AND STRATEGIES TO BE ADOPTED BY NURSE EDUCATORS:

The study findings revealed that the challenges encountered by nurse educators were 72% felt Integrating Information technology, 45% less than average level of students, 38% lack of resources, 60% limited time to complete syllabus, 74% applying evidence based research, 52% shortage of faculty, and 40% lack of opportunities to update knowledge and skills.

The strategies that can be adopted by nursing teachers in teaching were reflective practice 58%; using evidence based practice 78%, correlation of theory into practice 83%, effective clinical supervision 80%, increased use of simulation in teaching 88%, having Clinical skills 89%, updating by staff development and continuing education 89%, involvement in research 59%, and use of innovative teaching strategies 78%.

Strategies related to personal attributes for nurse educators were 97% felt communication skills, 87% critical thinking, positive attitude 76%, and self-motivation 87%

Nurse educators felt that strategies required to improve teaching learning activity were: 69% appropriate clinical learning environment, 87% adequate infrastructure, 98% felt qualified and experienced teachers, student centred teaching strategies 67%.

CONCLUSION:

Health care is always changing so nurse educators need to keep self updated with knowledge and skill. Nursing curriculum needs to be re-examined, updated and be ready to adopt changes with changing needs. Competent nurse educators are required who are qualified and clinically expert. The challenges of nursing education are to overcome barriers through use of innovative teaching methods, and clinical learning environment.

References:

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