



Original Research Article

Assessing the Attitude of 3rd Year B.Sc. Nursing Students towards the Psychiatric Patients Before and After Their Psychiatric Clinical Placement

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ABSTRACT

A descriptive study was conducted to assess the attitude of 3rd year B.Sc. Nursing students towards the psychiatric patients before and after their psychiatric clinical placement in a selected nursing institute in Mangalore taluk. Purposive sampling technique was used in the study. Five point Attitude scale were used to collect data from the subjects. The present study result revealed that there was no change in their attitude before and after their psychiatric clinical placement among 3rd year B.Sc. Nursing students.

Keywords: Attitude, Mental illness, Psychiatric patients.

INTRODUCTION

There is a little difference in people, but that little difference makes a big difference. That little difference is attitude. The big difference is whether it is positive or negative. In any field of education, it is necessary to know one's own attitude towards the field of study. In the field of mental health, nursing is important to develop a right attitude towards the psychiatric clients that will in turn help us to provide a good comprehensive nursing care. Therefore it is very necessary to assess one's attitude towards patients that provides basis for quality of care. The thought about mentally ill clients naturally brings fear and anxiety. ^[1]

Initiation to the nursing world possesses a major challenge to the fresh candidate like the quick transition from

adolescence to adulthood and from being a laity to a professional. This is even truer about student with no previous exposure to the mentally ill patients, especially as their worldview of the mentally sick is shaped by the misleading information. ^[2]

The Nursing students are exposed to the psychiatric ward for the first time; they are faced with ambivalent scenario, as they are unequipped to deal with mentally ill patients. It becomes a barrier for comprehensive nursing care. ^[3]

Compared to other branches of nursing, mental health nursing has its own merits and demerits. The attitude of the public towards mentally ill patient, influence of media, stigma existing in the community, experiences shared by others, perception about mental illness will formulate a negative attitude in nursing students before

their first mental health clinical placement.
^[4] Therefore, it is very essential to assess the attitude among the nursing students.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A descriptive survey approach was used for the study. The setting was a selected nursing institute in Mangalore taluk. Purposive sampling technique was used to select 60 B.Sc. nursing students. The data were collected by using Five point Attitude scale and demographic Proforma.

RESULTS

The research result revealed that majority of the subjects (73.3%) belongs to the age group of 18-20 years. In religion majority are 81.7% Christians. 81.7% of the subjects are from Kerala. 56.7% are from rural community. 85% of the sample's mother tongue was Malayalam. 51.7% of the subject's parents belong to secondary educational status.

43.3% of the subject's father is agricultural by occupation.

76.7% of the subject's mother's are homemaker by occupation.

Majority of the sample (75%) with family income in the range of 5000-10,000.

Less than half of the samples (38.3%) are having two siblings in the family.

Less than half of the samples (41.7%) were the first child in the family.

There is no family history of mental illness in selected samples.

The present study result revealed that there was no change in their attitude before and after their psychiatric clinical placement among 3rd year B.Sc Nursing students.

Majority of the students (75%) have got favorable attitude towards psychiatric patients.

The results show that there is no significant association between attitude and demographic variables.

Section -1 Description of Sample Characteristics

Table 1: Description of sampling characteristics. n=60

Q.NO		FREQUENCIES	PERCENTAGE
1. Age	18-20	44	73.3
	21-23	16	26.7
	24-26	-	-
2. Gender	Male	3	5
	Female	57	95
3. Religion	Hindu	9	15.0
	Christian	49	81.7
	Muslim	-	-
	Any other	2	3.3
4. Place of living	Karnataka	9	15.0
	Kerala	49	81.7
	Any other	2	3.3
5. Area of living	Rural	34	56.7
	Urban	26	43.3
6. Mother tongue	Kannada	3	5.0
	Tulu	2	3.3
	Hindi	-	-
	Malayalam	51	85.0
7. Educational status of parents	Any other	4	6.7
	Primary	1	1.7
	Secondary	31	51.7
	Degree	27	45.0
	Illiterate	1	1.7
8. Occupation of father	Business	14	23.3
	Agriculture	26	43.3

Table 1. Continued...			
	Professional	8	13.3
	Skilled works	11	18.3
9. Occupation of the mother	House wife	46	76.7
	Professional	13	21.7
	Skilled worker	-	-
	others	1	1.7
10. Monthly income of family	<5000	5	8.3
	5000-10000	45	75.0
	>10001	10	16.7
11.No of siblings in the family	1	21	35.0
	2	23	38.3
	>2	16	26.7
12.Order of birth	First	25	41.7
	Second	20	33.3
	Third	8	13.3
	>3	7	11.7
13.Family history of mental illness	Yes	-	-
	No	60	100

SECTION- 2 Assess the attitude of 3rd year B.Sc Nursing students towards psychiatric patients before and after their psychiatric clinical placement.

Table 2: Assess the attitude of 3rd year B.Sc Nursing students towards psychiatric patients before and after their psychiatric clinical placement n=60

	Pre Test		Post Test	
	Frequencies	Percentage	Frequencies	Percentage
Negative Attitude	-	-	-	-
Unfavorable Attitude	-	-	-	-
Favorable Attitude	50	83.3	45	75
Highly Favorable Attitude	10	16.7	15	25

Section 3. To compare the attitude of 3rd year B.Sc Nursing students towards the psychiatric patients before and after their psychiatric clinical placement.

Table 3: paired t test n=60

	Mean	Sd	T- value	P-value
Pre test	70.13	6.155	0.406	0.686
Post test	70.60	6.738		

Section 4: To find out the association between the attitudes of 3rd year B.Sc

DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study revealed that there was no significant difference in the attitude score (p value 0.686 p>0.05) of 3rd year B.Sc nursing students before and after their clinical placement. This study finding was supported by a study conducted by Samuel George and Ms.L.S Jayalakshmi in the year 2005. [5]

Nursing students towards psychiatric patients with selected demographic variable

Table: 4 to find out the association between the attitudes of 3rd year B.Sc Nursing students towards psychiatric patients with selected demographic variable n=60

	Mean	Sd	T- value	P- value
Male	71	2.646	0.248	0.805
Female	70.09	6.294		
Rural	69.97	6.413	0.232	0.817
Urban	70.35	5.919		

The present study revealed that majority of the sample (73.3%) belongs to age group 18-20 years out of which majority 95% are female and 5% of them are male. In religion majority of 81.7% were Christians and the data suggests that 83.3% had favorable attitude, 16.7% had highly favorable attitude before clinical placement and 75% had favorable attitude, 25% had highly favorable attitude after clinical placement. Comparatively a similar study

was conducted by Mr. Shiji Thomas; Mrs. Chanu Bhattacharya in Father Muller

collage of nursing, Mangalore in 2012. [6]

RESULT OF ONE WAY ANOVA

		MEAN	SD	F-VALUE	P-VALUE
AGE	18-20	70.48	6.757	0.511	0.478
	21-23	69.19	4.102		
	24-26	-	-		
RELIGION	HINDU	67.78	4.577	0.952	0.392
	CHRISTIAN	70.65	6.444		
	MUSLIM	-	-		
	ANY OTHER	68	1.414		
PLACE OF LIVING	KARNATAKA	69.89	4.372	0.134	0.847
	KERALA	70.27	6.566		
	ANY OTHER	68	1.414		
MOTHER TONGUE	KANNADA	66.67	3.512	0.586	0.627
	TULU	73.50	3.536		
	HINDI	-	-		
	MALYALAM	70.31	6.513		
	ANY OTHER	68.75	1.708		
EDUCATIONAL STATUS OF PARENTS	PRIMARY	67	-	0.099	0.960
	SECONDARY	70.13	6.835		
	DEGREE	70.30	5.62		
	ILLITERATE	69	-		
OCCUPATION OF FATHER	BUSINESS	70.71	5.413	0.482	0.749
	AGRICULTURE	70	6.45		
	PROFESSIONAL	67.75	4.027		
	SKILLED WORKS	71.09	7.905		
OCCUPATION OF MOTHER	HOUSE WIFE	70.39	6.302	0.209	0.812
	PROFESSIONAL	69.15	5.998		
	SKILLED WORKER	-	-		
	OTHERS	71	-		
MONTHLY INCOME	<5000	66.40	4.930	1.022	0.367
	5000-10000	70.40	6.482		
	>10001	70.80	4.849		
SIBLINGS	1	71.19	4.976	1.297	0.281
	2	70.61	6.652		
	>2	68.06	6.678		
ORDER OF BIRTH	FIRST	69.48	5.221	1.095	0.359
	SECOND	71.35	5.851		
	THIRD	71.75	9.285		
	>3	67.14	5.815		

CONCLUSION

Attitude is the way of approach of an individual to a particular situation. It is always said experience or exposure will change the attitude. [7] Students may be exposed to mentally ill patients without adequate knowledge and experience. Exposure to any concrete context will help to change the attitude. Finding of the study showed that majority of nursing students (75%) have favorable attitude towards psychiatric clients.

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