Nursing Faculty Assessment of the Integration of Forensic Nursing Concepts in Undergraduate Nursing Curricula

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Introduction

- Societal violence is an everyday occurrence (Eldredge, 2008).
- Nurses are positioned to address the gap between the legal system and healthcare (Miller, et al., 2010; Lynch, 1990).
- Every nurse should have the knowledge, skills, and application of forensic concepts to serve this unrecognized population (Drake, et al., 2015).
- Nurse educators must evolve nursing education and prepare learners for contemporary practice (Sekula, et al., 2012).
- Understanding the effects of violence will assist nursing students to identify potential victims and provide an occasion to offer resources and education (Amar & Sekula, 2016).

Hypotheses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Integration</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>H1</strong></td>
<td>There is no significant relationship between the years of experience and the nursing faculty assessment of the importance of including forensic nursing concepts in the undergraduate nursing curriculum.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>H2</strong></td>
<td>There is no significant difference between the primary area of teaching and the nursing faculty assessment of the importance of including forensic nursing concepts in the undergraduate nursing curriculum.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>H3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>H4</strong></td>
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Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this mixed-method study was to examine the nursing faculty assessment of the importance of including forensic nursing concepts in undergraduate nursing curriculum and explore the integration of forensic nursing concepts in undergraduate nursing curriculum.

Methodology


Research Questions

1. Which forensic nursing concepts are taught in the undergraduate nursing curriculum?
2. Do nursing faculty perceive it is important that forensic nursing concepts are taught in the undergraduate nursing curriculum?
3. What factors determine the integration of forensic nursing concepts in undergraduate nursing curriculum?

Conclusions

- Forensic nursing concepts are taught on a surface level.
- Undergraduate nursing faculty competency is a major factor in the facilitation of forensic nursing concepts into a curriculum.
- Nursing faculty participating in this study teach content directly related to the NCLEX-RN® blueprint.
- Nursing faculty understood the importance of teaching basic forensic concepts but had distinct differences in the areas of teaching and clinical practice.
- Program effectiveness of incorporating basic forensic concepts depended on faculty interest, available resources, and a supportive administration.