



Cancer and Cell Phone Usage: Risks Among College Students

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Introduction

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the use of cell phones among undergraduate nursing students within the College of Nursing and their awareness of possible dangers.

The objective of the study is to determine if changes in the use of cell phones among undergraduate nursing students within the College of Nursing will be instituted once their awareness of possible dangers has increased.

Research Question and Variables

1. What are nursing student's knowledge and usage patterns related to cell phones?
2. To what degree are nursing students aware of the health risks associated with long term cell phone use?
3. What is the effect of an educational program on nursing students' knowledge and actual use of safer cell phone usage practices?

Review of Literature

The World Health Organization (WHO) confirmed that mobile phone use may represent a long-term health risk, classifying mobile phone radiation as a "carcinogenic hazard" and "possibly carcinogenic to humans" after a team of scientist reviewed peer-review studies on cell phone safety (Mesbah, 2017). In the WHO's Information Series on *Electromagnetic fields and public health: mobile phones*, we are cautioned that the increasing use of mobile phones and the lack of data for mobile phone use over time periods longer than 15 years warrant further research of mobile phone use and brain cancer risk. In particular, with the recent popularity of mobile phone use among younger people, and therefore a potentially longer lifetime of exposure, WHO has promoted further research on this group. Several studies investigating potential health effects in children and adolescents are currently underway.

Methodology

Research Design

This study will be a pre/post test quasi-experimental design.

Setting

Nursing students may be unaware of the risks of prolonged cell-phone exposure. We purpose to initiate an educational awareness campaign to educate nursing students about the importance of promoting safer ways of using cell phones.

Population and Sample

A survey using a self-administered questionnaire was conducted among second- fourth year nursing students enrolled in the ADN and BSN nursing programs at a state supported public university. The questionnaire was designed by the researchers specifically for this study and contained thirty-three items regarding health condition and complaints as well as the frequency of mobile phone use.

Protection of Human Subjects

A proposal will be submitted to the NSU Institutional Review Board (IRB) prior to any data collection or initiation of research. Informed consent was obtained from all participants..



References

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Author's Comments

"University students are the most frequent users for mobile phones compared to any other age group." (Mesbah, 2017)

This research was conducted in hopes of promoting safer cell phone usage.

