



Nursing Research Study: Perceptions of Shared Governance by Nurse Leaders in Rural Hospitals in North India

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Introduction

Shared Governance (SG) has been widely accepted and reported to promote professional practice environments and provide nurses the autonomy and control over their practice to positively impact patient outcomes.

Research studies have demonstrated the successful development of a shared governance structure resulting from using the Index of Professional Nursing Governance (IPNG) tool.

In India, there have been no studies providing an understanding of nurses' perceptions of shared governance. The senior nursing leaders of Emmanuel Hospital Association (EHA) invited Dr. Hale to assist in conducting a research study on SG to provide the necessary knowledge to develop a SG structure for nurses in EHA.

Research Question

The research question: What is the status of professional nursing governance in Emmanuel Hospital Association Hospitals and Schools of Nursing?

Methods

A descriptive research design was utilized for this study. A convenience sample of nurse leaders all employed by Emmanuel Hospital Association (comprised of 21 hospitals and 6 Nursing Schools) were given the opportunity to complete the 50-item Index of Professional Governance (IPNG) tool who were attending their annual Nursing Leadership workshop in north India in April 2019.

The IPNG is a validated and reliable tool that measures overall perceptions of governance, and the following defining characteristics of SG in 6 subscales: personnel, access to information, resources supporting practice, participation, control over practice, and goals and conflicts.

Results

The overall mean total IPNG score was 121.38 (41.96; n=18/26).

The score indicates that the nursing group's perceptions of governance fall within the first level of shared governance (101-149), where decision-making is made by management/administration with some staff input.



EHA Nursing Leader Workshop Attendees



Research Team

Discussion

The IPNG tool was not translated into English which was not anticipated to be a barrier for completion of the IPNG survey tool by the study group. However, the responses for the survey indicated differently. Future studies with this group should include an option of a translated tool in Hindi

Out of 45 potential study participants, only 26 attempted completion of the tool, and of the 26 attempted surveys, only 18 were fully completed. Consequently, the sample size was much smaller than expected.

Conclusions

The nurse researchers for this study anticipated different results based on the culture of nursing in India. However, this validation is not possible based on the results of the survey.

The researchers feel that the study should be repeated using the IPNG tool translated into Hindi and add focus groups following the survey to gain a better understanding of the responses to the survey tool

EHA Executive Director and Dr. Hale presenting Study findings to EHA Sr. Leaders in July 2019



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References:

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