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Emotional Intelligence Perception Among Student Nurses: A Key Component of the Nursing Profession

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Purpose:

Emotional Intelligence is one of the key factors in completely preparing nursing students for professional practice. The aim of clinical education in nursing is to develop in the student the professional skills and knowledge needed in life-long learning and critical thinking, to create self-confidence as a nurse, and to ensure that the nurse is able to make her own decisions and be independent. The purpose of this study is to describe the Emotional Intelligence (EI) scores of baccalaureate nursing students and to determine if there is a difference among the students across the various levels of the program

Methods:

This is a cross sectional descriptive study conducted in a public university in Oman using Convenient Sampling technique. Data was collected from 232 participants using TEIQue- SF Questionnaire (Trait Emotional Intelligence Questionnaire-Short Form).

Results:

The mean age of students was 21 years and were from different provinces of Oman. The nursing students had moderate scores in all the subscales of emotional intelligence. Statistically significant relationships were found between the perceptions of EI scores and gender and age group. Even though the statistical significance could not be elicited, the students with higher Cumulative GPA had a higher mean emotional Intelligence.

Conclusion:

The findings of the study will throw light on the level of emotional intelligence among nursing students as the skills of emotional intelligence are required to meet the direct patient care and co-operative discussions with multidisciplinary team. Clinical education is a major component of nursing education and provides students with basic theoretical nursing knowledge and a variety of intellectual problem solving and psycho motor skills. The assimilation of emotional intelligence components into nursing education can be done through the curriculum revision. The elements of EI like self-awareness and motivation helps him or her to be an effective leader. The benefits of high EI will be an added advantage for both patients and nurses as emotional intelligence is a strong predictor of job success.

Title:

Emotional Intelligence Perception Among Student Nurses: A Key Component of the Nursing Profession

Keywords:

emotional intelligence, nursing education and undergraduate nursing students

Abstract Summary:

Emotional Intelligence is one of the key factors in completely preparing nursing students for professional practice. By enhancing and practicing the skills of emotional intelligence, the nurse will become aware of their own strength which empowers him or her to provide a passionate service to the society.

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Author Summary: Mrs. Deepa Shaji Thomas is a lecturer at Sultan Qaboos University College of Nursing. Mrs. Deepa has attended various national and international conferences and published over 15 research articles. Her areas of research interest are emotional intelligence, children's health and parental well-being. She also has vast experience in organization of workshops and community service programs. She

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