A Systematic Review of Evidence Based Teaching Strategies for Nurse Educators

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July 2016
The use of research evidence has been gaining interest around the world known as evidence based practice (EBP).

- EBP must be supported by evidence based teaching.
- EBP is not only applicable to practice, but need to be applied as a key component in the education programmes.
During a scoping literature review search on the topic it was discovered that there was a paucity of literature available on evidence based teaching and teaching strategies.

Limited evidence is available on evidence based practice, evidence based teaching and teaching strategies in the South African context.
Problem Statement

- The nurse educator teaches the nursing students the way they were taught.
- Nurse educators still uses lecture based-teaching, memorization and examinations as teaching strategies.
- The other difficulties nurse educators are facing, is dealing with millennial nursing students, where these students are digital savvy and grew up with technology.
A gap has been identified in South Africa that no systematic reviews have been done on any evidence based teaching strategies, therefore the methodology for this study is a systematic review.

The aim of the study is to explore and describe the best available literature on evidence based teaching strategies.
Objectives of the study

- To explore and describe the best available evidence based teaching strategies that can be used by nurse educators in South Africa.

- To develop a best practice guideline for teaching strategies for nurse educators in South Africa.
Research Methodology

Systematic review
Steps of the systematic review:

1. Systematic review protocol
2. Formulate a question
3. Search for answers to the question
4. Determine level of evidence
5. Critical appraisal
6. Summary of the best findings
7. Documentation of the findings.
Research Question

- What are the best teaching strategies that can be used by nurse educators in South Africa?
Results

- Teaching strategies identified from the synthesis of the study.
- E-learning, concept mapping, internet-based learning, gaming, problem-based learning, case studies and cultural competence.
- n = 4 of the teaching strategies demonstrated a significant increase in knowledge.
- The overall results found that a variety of teaching strategies be implemented to increase knowledge.
Limitations

- Search did not reveal a variety of too many teaching strategies.
- Research topic was broad resulting in retrieval of teaching strategies in other disciplines.
- No systematic reviews done in South Africa.
- Limited SR on evidence based teaching strategies.
- Budget constraints for registration of on-line instruments.
- The researcher was able to compile a draft guideline only.
Strengths of the study

- JBI theoretical framework focus is on evidence based practice for nursing.
- The use of the JBI critical appraisal instruments.
- Critical appraisal was conducted by two independent reviewers.
- The JBI Level of evidence for effectiveness.
- Inclusion on the comparison of teaching strategies.
Recommendations

- **Nursing Research**
- The further search for evidence based teaching strategies to determine the best ways of using them to meet the needs and for the benefit of the nursing students.
- Nurse educator to conduct their own research on evidence based teaching strategies to be able to assist students.
- More SR to be conducted on all levels of the JBI level of evidence.
- The implementation of a best practice guideline in nursing colleges.
Recommendations cont.

- **Nursing Education**
- Integration of a variety of teaching strategies.
- Nurse educators to have in-depth knowledge of teaching strategies and their appropriateness.
- Nurse educators to assess the learning needs of the nursing students to be able to weigh all the information in order to make informed decision on the use of teaching strategies.
- Evidence based teaching strategies be utilised by nurse educators
- Evidence based practice included as a subject in the education programs for nursing students.
Recommendations cont.

- **Nursing practice**
- Facilitators and mentors in practice use evidence based teaching and maintain up to date knowledge.
- Nursing staff in practice maintain up to date regarding evidence based practice and evidence based teaching.
- CPD module to assess the evidence based practice and the understanding of evidence based practice.
In conclusion, the use of evidence based teaching strategies is a concept that needs to be embraced by nurse educators in South Africa through own research. Through own research nurse educators will determine which strategy to use for teaching to increase the knowledge of the nursing students.
Thank you