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Short Communication

TRAINING OF NURSING PROCESS AT HOSPITALS IN IRAN: A TRADITIONAL OR SOFTWARE APPROACH?

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INTRODUCTION

Currently, the nursing process is the framework for providing care services in many health care systems and in most countries of the world (Hukabai, 2009). However, despite the emphasis of bachelor nursing curriculum on providing care measures in the nursing process framework, nursing process is used so limitedly as a standard framework in our country.

Clinical judgment is needed for putting correct nursing diagnosis, which requires the acquisition of knowledge and experience to detect and distinguish between normal and abnormal conditions. The importance of this issue relies on the fact that the clinical judgment and measures related to a particular situation cannot be sometimes found in a book as a list. Therefore, failure in correct diagnostics by nurses can be due to inability in clinical judgment and the lack of right practice in this area (Vinza, 2016).

Lack of awareness, time-consuming registration process, the need to complete multiple forms, choosing a diagnosis from a long list, and on the other hand, vast number of patients and low staffing are factors contributing to not registering or incomplete registering of the nursing process in Iran (Sayyadi (2012) and Mazloom (2014)). In the current system of academic nursing education in Iran, the nursing students learn the principles of nursing process in theoretical course in the primary semesters of education. Sometimes, during the internships and as a routine, and not in all universities, the clinical educators do not ask the students to record and perform the nursing process in a mandatory way. Thus, the students have not seen much practice in this context, and after entering

the clinical environment, as a clinical nurse will lack the ability to write the process based on standard steps or write the diagnoses by choosing from the North American Nursing Diagnosis (NANDA) standard list. This is more evident in nurses with a higher work experience due to distancing from academic training and lack of up-to-dating.

Failure to use the nursing process as a standard of care in our country has led to reduced job satisfaction, degradation of nursing scientifically and practically, lack of attention of some officials to the field and even devaluation of the profession by some nurses, decreased quality of care, doing routine measures without thinking and the one-dimensional approach of the nurses (Sayyadi, 2012).

The use of modern educational methods, including application, can be effective in promoting the cognitive, communication and practical skills of the students (Khatooni, 2014). Similarly, employing such strategies will increase the precision in the work of nurses and nursing students (Sousa *et al.*, 2016). On the other hand, with the growing development of technology, it seems that nursing and the related knowledge need to be updated in line with these changes to meet the needs of the nursing community.

The traditional method of nursing education (pen and paper method) has been around for many years and taught as a part of the nursing curriculum. But, the researcher's experiments and the relevant literature suggest that the rate of correct and standard writing (due to the time-consuming nature or lack of knowledge), and more importantly, its practicality at the bedside and the motivation for its implementation is in low

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level. Thus, the use of software for practical training will develop motivation, especially for young people and students as a new and rapid approach, which can be helpful in this regard.

Utilizing a software, which systematically specifies the standard diagnoses and care measures, can both have an educational aspect and recall the problems failed to be mentioned by the nurse. Also, it can significantly help in the recording process. Despite the design of similar examples in other countries, the necessity for localization of the software should not be forgotten due to the differences in the culture and religion in Islamic Iranian society.

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