Original Research Article

Futuristic perception and carrier aspects of nursing profession among nursing students at Kalaburagi city, Karnataka

Kaviraj Motakpalli*, Shahnaz Shaheen, Deepak Jamadar, N. D. Bendigeri

Department of Community Medicine, KBNIMS, Kalaburagi, Karnataka, India

Received: 15 July 2018
Revised: 30 July 2018
Accepted: 31 July 2018

*Correspondence:
Dr. Kaviraj Motakpalli,
E-mail: kavirajmotakpalli@gmail.com

Copyright: © the author(s), publisher and licensee Medip Academy. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License, which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

ABSTRACT

Background: The nursing profession is one of the important and integral parts of health care delivery system. Hence nursing profession is rated as one of the most trusted profession in the health care industry and also considered as one of the exiting and in demand profession. Our study aims to know the futuristic perception of young and dynamic students of nursing colleges across the Kalaburagi city. As nursing profession is a supporting pillar for the health care sector. It is very important to understand the significant social professional values and the urge and intense of our nursing students at this region and time.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study design was used to identify the nursing students’ attitudes toward nursing profession. The study was carried out in 240 nursing students in different nursing colleges at Kalaburagi city.

Results: Only 27.9% students had family members or relatives in the nursing profession. The reasons for joining nursing revealed 80.42% students were self motivated to perceive nursing as a carrier. Regarding perception 97.08% perceived nursing as an opportunity to serve humanity and 92.52% perceive nursing as a caring profession.

Conclusions: Though nursing is regarded as a caring, dignify and respectful profession still many don’t want to work locally. More than half of the students were interested to work in abroad.

Keywords: Futuristic, Perception of nursing students

INTRODUCTION

The nursing profession is one of the important and integral part of health care delivery system. Health care system covers major aspects of health care delivery services particularly preventive, promotive and curative services. The nursing profession begin a part of our health system facilitates promoting healthy lifestyle to individuals and the families, preventing diseases by health education to the community and nursing profession, also provides curative health services to all the segments of the society. Hence nursing profession is rated as one of the most trusted profession in the health care industry and also considered as one of the exiting and in demand profession.

Shortage of nurses is a global challenge most of the countries in the world are facing shortage of nurses.  

1 The image of both nurses and nursing as a profession is vital in the successful recruitment and retention of staff in the healthcare industry. The global causes of a shrinking professional nurse workforce, nursing students come into nursing education with inherent lay beliefs of nursing that evolve over years of education, enabling them to be professionally socialized into the nursing career. A small number of research studies that addressed the impact of nursing students’ perceptions of the public image of nursing were found. 

2 According to WHO on International nurses day 12th May 2018 nurses and midwives represent nearly one-half of
the total number of health workers around the world. However, for all countries to reach Sustainable Development Goal 2 of health and well-being for all at all ages, WHO estimates that the world will need an additional 9 million nurses and midwives by 2030. There is a global shortage of health workers, in particular nurses and midwives, who represent more than 50% of the current shortage in health workers. The largest needs-based shortages of nurses and midwives are in South East Asia and Africa.  

Nurses are two-thirds of health workforce in India. Role of nurses are evolving and changing. Apart from their central roles in health care delivery in terms of promotion, prevention, treatment, care and rehabilitation, nurses can also contribute towards strengthening systems to work efficiently in interdisciplinary teams. There is a rising demand in terms of manpower for tertiary and quaternary care, which requires specialized and highly skilled resources including doctors, nurses and other paramedical staff, which is also emphasized in NHP 2017. The number of registered nurses/midwives has reached 17,91,285 in 2014. Although there is significant increase still there is gap between demand and supply. With regard to doctor nurse ratio, internationally it is 1:3 whereas, India is having 1:1. The country needs 2.4 million nurses to meet the growing demand.  

Although nursing students’ perception of nursing and carrier aspects were well investigated in many studies, this was less examined in our region, especially very little is known about Indian student nurses' futuristic perception of nursing profession. Nursing students’ perceptions of nursing might have an impact on their self-concept, self-esteem, recruitment, retention, and performance. Hence this study is undertaken with an aim to determine the futuristic perception and carrier aspects of nursing profession among nursing students.  

METHODS

A descriptive cross-sectional study design was used to identify the nursing students’ attitudes toward nursing profession. This study was carried out in the Nursing colleges of Kalaburagi city from October 2017 to March 2018. A non-probability convenience sample was used in the present study. The students enrolled in the nursing colleges of Kalaburagi city were invited to participate in the study. The pre-tested questionnaire was used, the purpose of the study was fully explained to the participants, data was collected after the participants’ consents. 240 students participated and returned the questionnaires. The students were allocated in different academic years including the first, second, third, fourth and the internship. The other part of the questionnaire included other parameters related to socio-demographic characteristics subjects such as age group, marital status, and academic year. The data entered, tabulated and analyzed to test the significance of the study at (p<0.05).  

RESULTS

The present study revealed that out of 240 nursing students 30 (12.5%) were less than or equal to age group of 18 and majority 210 (87.5%) were more than 18 years. In our study male nursing students were in majority 147 (61.3%) compared to female nursing students 93 (38.8%) and majority 168 (70%) were Hindus followed by 62 (25.83%) Muslims, 7 (2.9%) were Christians and 3 (1.3%) belonged to other religions. The socio economic classification revealed that out of 240 nursing students majority 82 (34.17%) belonged to upper class, followed by 63 (26.25%) belonged to middle class, 48 (20%) belonged to upper middle class, 38 (15.83%) belonged to lower middle class and least 8 (3.75) belonged to lower class. Majority 97.1% were unmarried and 56.3% belonged to nuclear family. Majority 63.3% resided in urban area. The analysis of parents education and occupation revealed that 50% of the mothers were literate and only 15.42% of them were working, whereas 70% of the fathers were educated and majority 94.17% of them were working, but in that only one was in nursing profession.  

Enquiry on any family member or relative in the nursing profession revealed that only 27.9% students family members or relatives were in nursing profession and majority 72.1% were not having their family members or relatives in nursing. The reasons that motivated the participants for joining the nursing revealed, there were several reasons to join nursing, but in particular a relatively high percentage 80.42% were self motivated to pursue nursing. 15.83% pursued nursing on advice of others and 3.75% joined nursing due to parent’s interest.  

Regarding perception of the students towards nursing profession revealed that 97.08% perceived nursing as an opportunity to serve humanity and is statistically significant (p<0.05). 92.52% perceived nursing as a caring profession and 92.08% felt that nursing is a mean for earning blessings. 89.58% perceived as an opportunity for personal growth, which are statistically significant. 80.83% as a way to have bright prospective in abroad, 76.25% perceived nursing as a way to enjoy economic security or a way to get better job opportunity. 90% as a way to get due recognition in society, 88.33% perceived nursing as a dignified and respectful profession. 51.25% perceived it actually equal to other professions. 44.58% felt it as an opportunity to get good marriage offers.  

Future prospective of the students revealed that majority 56.25% had a plan to go abroad, followed by 20% would like to join nursing administration, 17.08% teaching institute and 6.67% had a desire to join bedside nursing. A majority 93.33% expressed a strong desire to go for higher education after graduation which is statistically significant (p<0.05).
Table 1: Distribution of study subjects according to their general characteristics.

| Parameters                                  | Frequency (n=240) | Percentage (%) |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Age (years)                                 |                  |                |
| ≤18                                         | 30               | 12.5           |
| >18                                         | 210              | 87.5           |
| Gender                                      |                  |                |
| Male                                        | 147              | 61.3           |
| Female                                      | 93               | 38.8           |
| Religion                                    |                  |                |
| Hindu                                       | 168              | 70.0           |
| Muslim                                      | 62               | 25.8           |
| Christian                                   | 7                | 2.9            |
| Others                                      | 3                | 1.3            |
| Socio economic status (B.G. Prasad classification) |                  |                |
| Upper class                                 | 82               | 34.17          |
| Upper middle class                          | 48               | 20.00          |
| Middle class                                | 63               | 26.25          |
| Lower middle class                          | 38               | 15.83          |
| Lower class                                 | 8                | 3.75           |
| Marital status                              |                  |                |
| Married                                     | 7                | 2.9            |
| Unmarried                                   | 233              | 97.1           |
| Type of family                              |                  |                |
| Nuclear                                     | 135              | 56.3           |
| Joint                                       | 105              | 43.8           |
| Residence                                   |                  |                |
| Rural                                       | 152              | 63.3           |
| Urban                                       | 88               | 36.7           |
| Any family member or relative in nursing profession |              |                |
| Yes                                         | 67               | 27.9           |
| No                                          | 173              | 72.1           |
| Reason for joining nursing                  |                  |                |
| Self motivated                               | 193              | 80.42          |
| Advice of others                            | 38               | 15.83          |
| Force by parents                            | 9                | 3.75           |
| Mother’s education                          |                  |                |
| Illiterate                                  | 120              | 50.00          |
| Literate                                    | 120              | 50.00          |
| Father’s education                          |                  |                |
| Illiterate                                  | 72               | 30             |
| Literate                                    | 168              | 70             |
| Mothers occupation                          |                  |                |
| Housewife                                   | 202              | 84.17          |
| Working                                     | 37               | 15.42          |
| Father occupation                           |                  |                |
| Business                                    | 42               | 17.50          |
| Government                                  | 39               | 16.25          |
| Non working                                 | 14               | 5.83           |
| Private job                                 | 144              | 60.00          |
| Nursing profession                          | 1                | 0.42           |

Table 2: Students perceptions of nursing as a profession.

| Students perceptions                                      | No  | %     | P value       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|---------------|
| An opportunity to serve humanity                         |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 7   | 2.92  | *p<0.05       |
| Yes                                                       | 233 | 97.08 |               |
| An opportunity for personal growth                        |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 25  | 10.42 | *p<0.05       |
| Yes                                                       | 215 | 89.58 |               |
| A way to have bright prospects in abroad                  |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 46  | 19.17 |               |
| Yes                                                       | 194 | 80.83 | p>0.05        |
| A way to enjoy economic security/ Better job opportunity  |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 57  | 23.75 |               |
| Yes                                                       | 183 | 76.25 | p>0.05        |
| Caring profession in which ethical standards of care is maintained | | | |
| No                                                        | 18  | 7.50  | p>0.05        |
| Yes                                                       | 222 | 92.50 |               |
| A way to get due recognition in society                   |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 24  | 10.00 | p>0.05        |
| Yes                                                       | 216 | 90.00 |               |
| A dignified and respectful profession                     |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 28  | 11.67 |               |
| Yes                                                       | 212 | 88.33 | p>0.05        |
| A mean to earn blessings                                  |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 19  | 7.92  |               |
| Yes                                                       | 221 | 92.08 | p>0.05        |
| Actually equal to other professions                       |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 117 | 48.75 |               |
| Yes                                                       | 123 | 51.25 | p>0.05        |
| An opportunity to get marriage offers                     |     |       |               |
| No                                                        | 133 | 55.42 |               |
| Yes                                                       | 107 | 44.58 | p>0.05        |

*P<0.05 is significant, P>0.05 is insignificant.

Figure 1: Bar diagram showing perception of nursing students after their graduation.
In our study, out of 240 nursing students, majority 147 (61.3%) were male nursing students compared to female nursing students 93 (38.8%). Perceptions also differed by gender as revealed by Safadi et al which is different from other similar studies where female dominance is more, this we can observed in one of the study done by Lakhveer et al where majority of the nursing students were females 86%. This may be due to the fact that in many parts of our country still male dominance is more compared to female. Majority 82 (34.17%) belonged to upper class. Majority 97.1% were unmarried and 56.3% belonged to nuclear family. The analysis of parents’ education and occupation revealed that 50% of the mothers were literate and only 15.42% of the females were working were as 70% of the fathers were educated and majority of the males 94.17% were working, but in that only one was in nursing profession.

In our study only 27.9% students family members or relatives were in nursing profession and majority 72.1% were not having their family members or relatives in nursing and there were several reasons for joining nursing, but in particular a relatively high percentage 80.42% were self motivated to pursue nursing. 15.83% pursued nursing on advice of others and 3.75% joined nursing due to parents’ interest. These findings are similar to a study done by Anurag et al where 83.2% of the respondents were self motivated on pursuing nursing as a career and only 44% of the students had any family member or relative in nursing profession.

Regarding perception of the students towards nursing profession revealed that 97.08% perceived nursing as an opportunity to serve humanity and is statistically significant (p<0.05), 92.52% perceived nursing as a caring profession and 92.08% felt that nursing is a mean for earning blessings which is similar to study done by Eman et al, where majority of the respondents felt that nursing is a caring profession 84% and a humanitarian job 71%.89.58% as an opportunity for personal growth, which are statistically significant. 80.83% as a way to have bright prospective in abroad, 76.25% perceived nursing as a way to enjoy economic security or a way to get better job opportunity. 90% as a way to get due recognition in society, 88.33% perceived nursing as a dignified and respectful profession. 51.25% perceived it actually equal to other professions. 44.58% felt it as an opportunity to get marriage offers which were similar to findings of Momin et al.

In the present study majority 56.25% had a plan to go abroad, 20% were interested to join nursing administration, 17.08% teaching institute and 6.67% had a desire to join bedside nursing. A majority 93.33% expressed a strong desire to go for higher education after graduation which is statistically significant (p<0.05). This is similar to a study done by Swarna et al where more than half of the students were attracted to migrate to abroad. This may be due to lack of good employment opportunities, financial incentives, healthy and competent working areas and may be change in attitudes and aspirations of the students towards nursing in India making them to travel to developed countries for better future.

**REFERENCES**

1. Littlejohn L, Campbellb J, Collins-McNeile J, Khayile T. Nursing Shortage: A Comparative Analysis. Int J Nursing. 2012;1(1):22-7.
2. Jarrah TAI. Associate Nursing Students Perceptions towards Nursing Profession in Jordan. Eur Scientific J. 2013;9(6):147-66.
3. Available at: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/nursing-midwifery/en. Accessed on 3 July 2018.
4. Dilip KT, Punitha E. Growth of Nursing in India: Historical and Future Prospective, Indian Nursing Council, Healthy India Chronicle, 2014.
5. Marč M, Bartosiewicz A, Burzyńska J, Chmiel Z, Januszewicz P. A Nursing Shortage-a prepect of global and local policies. Int Nurs Rev. 2018.
6. Kaur L, Kanika, Kumar A. Assess the attitude of nursing students towards nursing profession. Int J Applied Res. 2016;2(6):738-41.
7. Patidar AB, Kaur J, Sharma SK, Sharma N. Future nurses' perception towards profession and carrier plans: A cross sectional survey in state Punjab. Nursing and Midwifery Res J. 2011;47(4):75-81.
8. Eman T, Seamus C, Edgar A. A triangulation study: Bahraniani nursing students perception of nursing as career. J Nursing Edu Pract. 2012;2(3):81-92.
9. Momin SKM, Hashmi JS, Khadilkar AH. Perception and aspiration of final year B.Sc. nursing students towards their professional life. Int J Med Sci Public Health. 2016;5(12):2508-11.
10. Swarna S. Nursing students’ perception towards profession and future intentions. J Nursing Health Sci. 2015;4(5):30-4.

Cite this article as: Motakpalli K, Shaheen S, Jamadar D, Bendigeri ND. Futuristic perception and carrier aspects of nursing profession among nursing students at Kalaburagi city, Karnataka. Int J Community Med Public Health 2018;5:3865-9.