Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude towards Nursing Profession among School Teachers in Karad

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Abstract: *Objectives are (1) To assess the knowledge & attitude of teachers towards nursing profession; (2) To find the association between knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession with selected demographic variables; (3) To find the co-relationship between knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession. Setting & Design: Colleges present in Karad city, Descriptive survey design. Methodology: Sample size is 557; Purposive Sampling Technique. Tool used are Part 1- Socio - demographic data Part 2- Knowledge questionnaire-13 Part 3- Attitude questionnaire -12. Coding, computing of data by excel & statistical analysis is done by "Instat". Results: Mean, median of knowledge& attitude: 10.49, 11.00, And 31.84, 32.Demographic data: Age group 31-40yrs.- 150 (30.48%). Sex Male-264(47.39%). Educational status- graduate-222(39.85%). Hindu religion-426(76.48%). Marital status-married- 410(73.60%). Type of family- Joint-316(56.73%). place of residence- rural- 47(44.34%). Present post-Teacher-434 (77.91%). Knowledge& attitude- correct response of the knowledge scale- 5845 (80.72%) Grading of knowledge-excellent -298(53.50%). There is significant association with all selected demographic variables. Correlation coefficient- (r) =0.2282, coefficient of determination- (r squared) =0.05209The two tailed P value is < 0.0001, considered extremely significant. Conclusion- Overall knowledge is excellent & attitude positive. There is significant correlation between knowledge & attitude it indicate when knowledge increases attitude changes.*

Keywords: knowledge, attitude, nursing, Karad, teachers

1. Introduction

Nursing is no more learned by trial or error & apprenticeship. It is a discipline that prepares competent Professionals." - Samuel, S.A [1988-89]. Nursing is one of the most delightful arts, which needs blending of knowledge, skills & values. Today there are numerous vocations & occupations available to an individual to choose. The public image of an occupation determines its financial remuneration & also the type of person who will enter it. When stepping out the gates of school or college, there is wide variety of careers available & awaiting for youngsters. Young people have career ideas of their own. In India, the picture of Nursing Profession is changing day by, day, while Nursing Profession still suffers a mild degree of so called stigma in certain states of the country.[1]

2. Need for the Study

What do the public think of Nurses? Do they see nurses as nice, but not very bright girls who hold patients hands & carryout doctor's orders or do they regard them as skilled, independent Professionals with their own area of expertise. When it comes to school teacher, it becomes necessary that how they look forward toward nursing as they influence youngster and are the ideals for them. So this is an attempt to check School teacher's knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession. [1,]

3. Statement of the Problem

Study to assess the knowledge and attitude regarding nursing profession among school teachers in Karad.

4. Aims and Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge & attitude of teachers towards nursing profession.
2. To find the association between knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession with selected demographic variables.
3. To find the co-relationship between knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession.

5. Assumptions

Teacher will have some knowledge about nursing profession.
Teacher will motivate the student to take up nursing as a profession.
As knowledge increases more positive attitude also develops.

6. Hypothesis

There will be significant correlation between knowledge and attitude score.

7. Methodology

Research approach: Descriptive survey.
Research design: A descriptive survey design
Sample size: 557
Sampling technique: Purposive Sampling Technique
Criteria for Sample Selection
Inclusive Criteria: Teachers who are willing & present at the time of data collection
Exclusive Criteria: Teachers who are not willing, on leave or absent to participate in the study
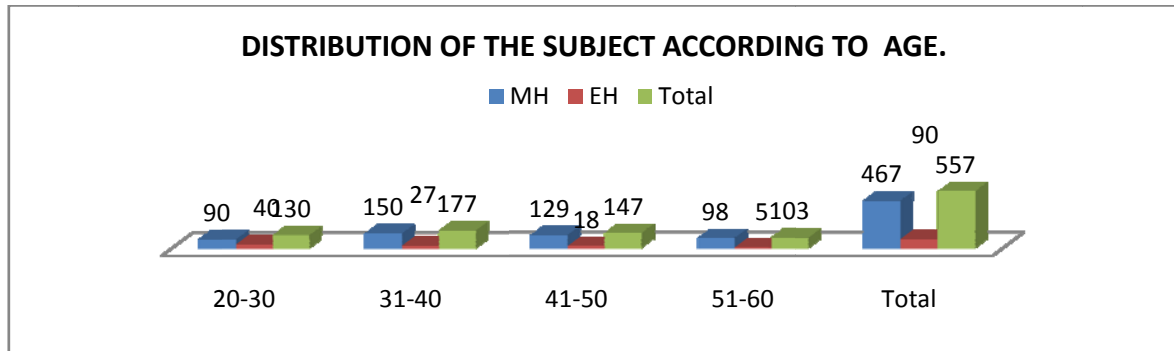
Development and description of tool: The tool comprises of three parts: Part 1- Socio - demographic data It consist of age , religion , marital status , year of experience , residential background , type of family , income per month. Part 2- Knowledge assess regarding the nursing profession. Part 3- Attitude assess regarding the nursing profession.

Period of data collection: 07/03/2013 – 28/03/2013

Plan for analysis: Coding of answer sheet done while computing the data on excel sheet in Microsoft excel spread sheet by researcher himself. Data is analyzed by various tools present in Microsoft excel spread sheet & statistical analysis is done by using software "Instat".

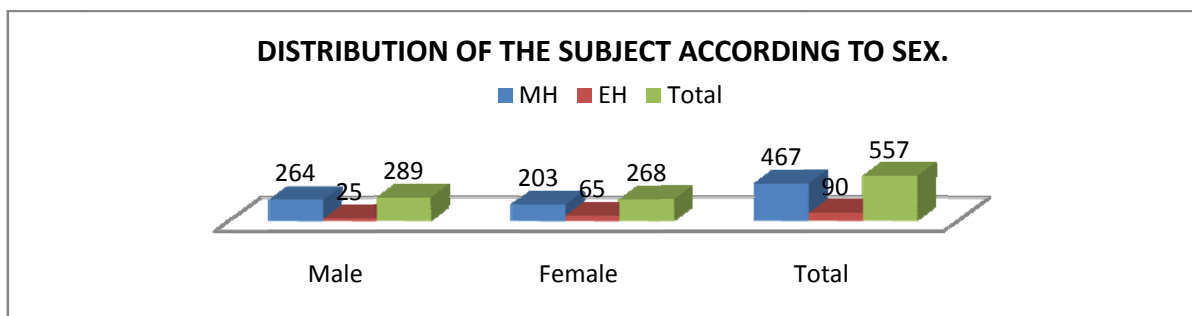## 8. Analysis and Interpretation

Graph no 1: Distribution of the subject according to age

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUBJECT ACCORDING TO AGE.

Majority 150 (26.92%) subjects are present in 31-40 age groups in MH

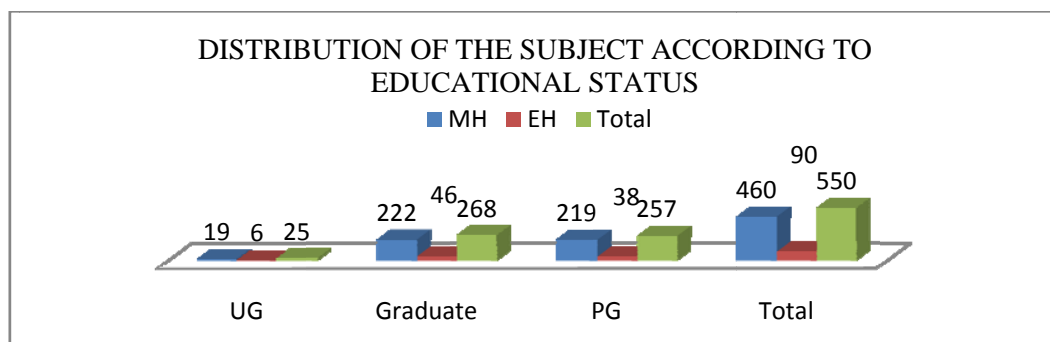Minimum 5(0.89%) subjects are present in 51-60 age groups in EH

Graph no 2: Distribution of the subject according to sex.

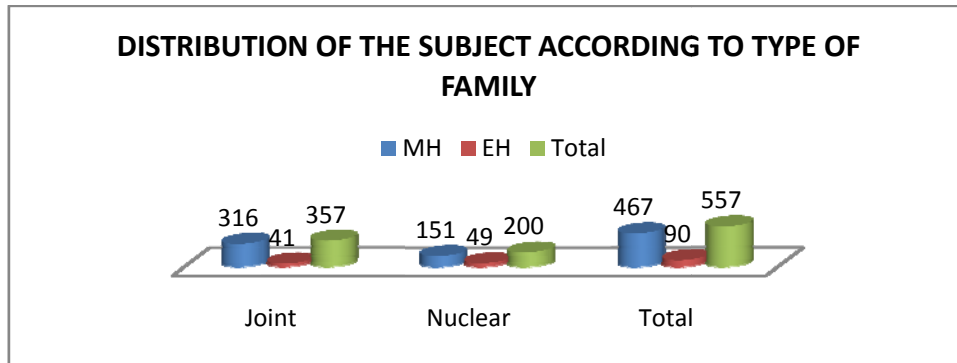**DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUBJECT ACCORDING TO SEX.**

Majority 264(47.39%) subjects are Male in MH
Minimum 55(9.87%) subjects are female in EH

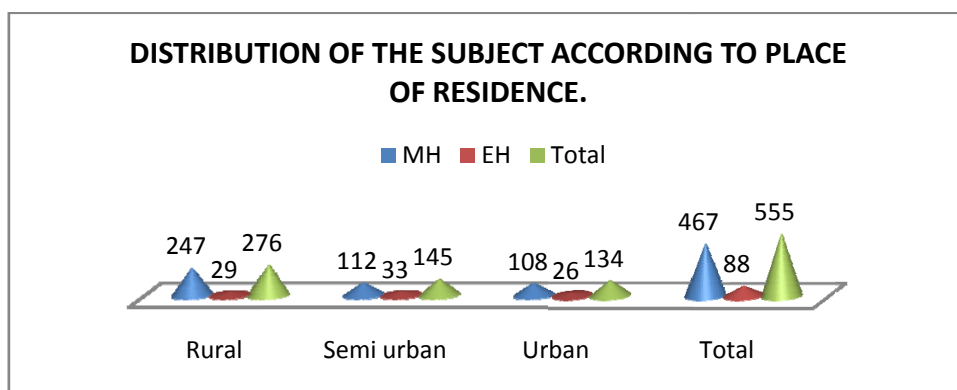**Graph no 3:** Distribution of the subject according to educational status

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUBJECT ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL STATUS

Majority 222(39.85%) subjects are graduate in MH
Minimum 6(1.07%) subjects are present in UG groups in EH

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Graph no 4: Distribution of the subject according to type of family

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUBJECT ACCORDING TO TYPE OF FAMILY

Majority 316(56.73%) subjects are in MH are staying in joint family according to type of family

Minimum 41(7.36%) subjects is divorced in EH are staying in joint family according to type of family

Graph no 5: Distribution of the subject according to place of residence.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUBJECT ACCORDING TO PLACE OF RESIDENCE.

Majority 247(44.34%) subjects are in MH group stays in rural area

Minimum 26(4.66%) subjects in EH group stay in rural area

Table 1: Distribution of the subjects according to the correct responses of the knowledge scale and its percentage

Sr. No	Item	Correct Responses	Percentage
1.	Nurses protect patient in health care system.	542	97.3
2.	Nurses participate in development of health care policies.	405	72.71
3.	Research is important in nursing.	441	79.17
4.	Students require good marks to get admission for nursing.	480	86.17
5.	Nurses works only in hospital.	362	64.99
6.	Nursing profession gives 100% job guarantee.	373	66.96
7.	Only girls can take admission for nursing.	448	80.43
8.	Nurses make decision for patient care.	348	62.47
9.	Nurses works with high technology.	432	77.55
10.	Anyone can practice nursing.	460	82.58
11.	There are different courses available in nursing.	507	91.02
12.	There is a great need of experienced nurses worldwide.	544	97.66
13.	A legal certificate is required to practice as a nurse.	503	90.3
		5845	80.72

Majority 544(97.66%) subjects have given correct response to" There is a great need of experienced nurses worldwide." and 542(97.3%) subjects have given correct response to "Nurses protect patient in health care system.

Minimum 348 (62.47%) subjects have given correct response to "Nurses make decision for patient care."

Table 2: Distribution of the subject according to type of attitude towards nursing profession

Sr. No.	Items	Positive Attitude	Negative Attitude	Neutral Attitude	No Response
1.	Nursing is a respected profession in the society.	444(79.71%)	101(18.13%)	11(1.79%)	1(0.1795)
2.	Nurses working hard for the patient care.	505(90.64%)	40(7.18%)	10(3.59%)	2(0.359%)
3.	Nurses follow only doctor's order without questioning.	253(45.42%)	283(50.79%)	20(3.59%)	1(0.1795%)
4.	Nurses earning lot of money.	204(36.61%)	227(40.74%)	120(21.54%)	6(1.077%)
5.	Nurses are the backbone of patient care in the hospital.	523(93.87%)	25(4.48%)	5(0.89%)	4(0.71%)
6.	Nursing is a slavery profession.	372(66.77%)	148(26.56%)	32(5.74%)	5(0.89%)
7.	Practicing as a nurse definitely gives a bread and butter.	463(83.10%)	74(13.28%)	19(3.41%)	1(0.1795%)
8.	Nurses with advanced degree of knowledge make important contribution to patient care.	523(93.87%)	26(4.66%)	7(1.25%)	1(0.1795%)
9.	Nurses play an important role in preventing diseases among community.	498(89.40%)	50(8.97%)	7(1.25%)	2(0.359%)
10.	Practicing nursing may affect social decisions like marriage.	171(30.70%)	334(59.96%)	52(9.33%)	0
11.	Hindu girls do not prefer nursing.	277(49.73%)	256(45.96%)	23(4.12%)	1(0.1795%)
12.	Males can practice nursing.	525(94.25%)	26(4.66%)	6(1.07%)	0

Majority 523(93.87%) subjects shows positive attitude to" Nurses with advanced degree of knowledge make important contribution to patient care." and "Nurses are the backbone of patient care in the hospital."

9. Discussion

Majority 150 (26.92%) subjects are present in 31-40 age groups in MH
Minimum 5(0.89%) subjects are present in 51-60 age groups in EH
Majority 264(47.39%) subjects are Male in MH
Minimum 55(9.87%) subjects are female in EH
Majority 222(39.85%) subjects are graduate in MH
Minimum 6(1.07%) subjects are present in UG groups in EH
Majority 316(56.73%) subjects are in MH are staying in joint family according to type of family
Minimum 41(7.36%) subjects is divorced in EH are staying in joint family according to type of family
Majority 247(44.34%) subjects are in MH group stays in rural area
Minimum 26(4.66%) subjects in EH group stay in rural area
Majority 426(76.48%) subjects are HINDU in MH
Minimum 4 (0.71%) subjects are Christian in EH
Majority 410(73.60%) subjects are married in MH
Minimum 1(0.17%) subjects is divorced in EH
Majority 434 (77.91%) subjects in MH group are teacher
Minimum 2(0.35%) subjects in EH group are vice principal
Majority 314 (56.37%) subjects in MH group are having above Rs.20000 income
Minimum 5(0.89%) subjects in EH group are less than Rs.5000 income
Majority 86 (15.43%) subjects in MH group are having less than 5 years experience
Minimum 1(0.17%) subjects in EH group are more than 25 yrs and 30 years experience
Overall correct response of the knowledge scale- 5845 (80.72%)
Majority 298(53.50%) subjects are having excellent knowledge according to gradation of knowledge

Minimum 9(1.6%) subjects are having poor knowledge according to gradation of knowledge
Majority 544(97.66%) subjects have given correct response to" There is a great need of experienced nurses worldwide." and 542(97.3%) subjects have given correct response to "Nurses protect patient in health care system.
Minimum 348 (62.47%) subjects have given correct response to "Nurses make decision for patient care."
Majority 523(93.87%) subjects shows positive attitude to" Nurses with advanced degree of knowledge make important contribution to patient care." and "Nurses are the backbone of patient care in the hospital."

There is significant association with all selected demographic variables. It indicate there is effect of these demographic variable on development of attitude.

10. Correlation

Number of points 557
Correlation coefficient (r) =0.2282
95% confidence interval: 0.1479- 0.3055
Coefficient of determination (r squared) =0.05209
The two tailed p value is < 0.0001, considered extremely significant .It indicate there is increase in knowledge changes attitude towards positive.

Authors could not find reviews on school teachers.

Studies correspondence to our study findings

A study which was conducted by H.T Dave on assessing the knowledge & attitude towards Nursing Profession showed that 89.5% respondents had positive attitude towards Nursing but this attitude is not translated into adverse for joining Nursing. This may be due to some stigma attached to Nursing[.2]

Study conducted on college students perceptions of nursing in California. Method used was multivariate analysis concluded more favorable rating of nursing as a large number of students majoring in nursing. Students who are not nursing majors do not appear to hold a more

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favorable attitude towards nurses relative to physical therapists.[3]

Another study conducted on college student's image of nursing as a career choice. A convenience survey of two groups of college students was instituted to determine the image of nursing in relation to an ideal career. The responses of 163 non-nursing students were compared to those of 93 nursing students. Findings indicated that the image of nursing as a career choice among non nursing college students correlated with their ideal career at $r=0.4072$. As expected, nursing students correlated nursing with their ideal more positively $r=0.5941$.[4]

Studies contrast to our study findings

Rossiter JC, Foong A, Chan PT (2008) conducted a study on attitude of Hong Kong high school students towards the nursing profession method used was questionnaire and study concluded that the students were generally knowledgeable about nursing but were reluctant to pursue nursing as a career. Students who were socially acquainted with a nurse demonstrated a slightly more positive attitude towards nursing and slightly higher intention to pursue nursing as a career compared with those having no social acquaintance with a nurse.[5]

Luchesi LB, Mendes IAC, Shiniyashiki GT, Costa Junior ML (2009) A descriptive study was conducted in Brazil to assess the perception of third year secondary level students towards nursing. The sample consisted of 46 girls. Among the sample only 7.7% opted for nursing. Among other professional courses nursing occupied the eighth place in the ranking among 14 professions. Regarding salary perception nursing dropped to the 9th place. Findings of the study revealed that students were having a low image towards nursing[6]

Al - Kandari FH, Lew I (2005) conducted a study on Kuwaiti high school students perception of nursing as a profession implications for nursing education and practice. Questionnaire method was used from 289 students attending seven all – female high schools in Kuwait. The results revealed that all of the participants were knowledgeable about the functional aspects of the nursing profession and 35 percent of them received this information through contact with nurses during hospital visits. Only 19 percent indicated that they might consider nursing as a future career.[7]

11. Conclusion

The overall knowledge and attitude about nursing profession among school teachers are excellent. There is significant association between all demographic variables and knowledge.
There is significant correlation between knowledge and attitude so we came to the conclusion that, school teachers have excellent knowledge regarding nursing profession and as knowledge increases attitude changes to positive.

Nursing Implication

The findings of this study have implications for nursing service, nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.

Nursing service: The study helps to improve the knowledge and attitude regarding the nursing profession among teachers and thus can help in uplifting image of nursing profession in society. The findings of the study could be utilized as a basis for in service education of teachers so that constant awareness and clear understanding may be created regarding a nursing profession.

Nursing education: Active participation of teachers can be encouraged by providing opportunity for self learning, teaching and explaining nursing profession.

Nursing administration: Nursing administrator must plan a separate budget for continuing education program related to increasing awareness about nursing profession in the society.

Nursing research: Research on knowledge and attitude can reveal significant findings. There is need for research based standards of practice.

12. Future Scope

Study findings will help for admissions judgments for new courses in nursing. Study can be repeated periodically. It will help to improve nursing image.

13. Acknowledgement

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Author Profile

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