



“A Study To Assess The Patient’s Perception On Factors Affecting Gender Role In Nursing Care Among Patients Admitted In Smvmch At Puducherry”.

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Abstract

Nurses role is highly significant and valuable in the healthcare system. As the front-line services, nurses' performance is greatly affected by patients' expectations and perceptions towards them. This motivates them to become more caring and efficient in the multiple roles they play during the 24-hour stay with the patient. The main objective of the study to assess the patient's perception on the factor affecting gender role in nursing care. A quantitative research approach and descriptive research design was used for this study the 30 sample and selected with the use of convenient sampling technique. Sample consists of patients are at the age of 18 to 80 years who fulfil the inclusion criteria, data collection was done with self-structured questionnaires on Assessment scale on patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care. The result was conducted using descriptive and inferential statistics the present study reveals that out of 30 patients majority, 21 (70%) of the patient's had positive perception and 9 (30%) of the patient's had a neutral perception. The present study assessed the patient's perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care among patients admitted in SMVMCH at Puducherry. The study findings concluded that there was a significant association between levels of perception of patient's with the age and education qualification where 'p' value is < 0. 05.

Keywords: Perception, quantitative, performance, questionnaires.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Nurses role is highly significant and valuable in the healthcare system. As the front-line services, nurses' performance is greatly affected by patients' expectations and perceptions towards them. This motivates them to become more caring and efficient in the multiple roles they play during the 24-hour stay with the patient. Nurses are required to act as caregivers, counsellors, educators, advocates, coordinators, and communicators in very high standards. Nursing has been known as a feminist profession for centuries due to women's compassionate and devoted nature. However, it is now open to recruiting more men. Therefore, there is a need to design strategies in both academic and clinical settings to overcome gender barriers and enhance the retention and growth of the profession.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), as of 2019, more than 12% of registered nurses in the U.S. are males and about 7% in Canada. In Western countries, the percentage of male nurses is typically below 10%. However, the proportion varies between 1-2% in China and as high as 16.7% in Spain. Despite some progress towards greater gender diversity, male representation in nursing remains low.

In India, Suresh K. Sharma et al. (2022) conducted a study to explore patient perceptions towards male nurses. The mean age of the patients was 43.85 ± 15.85 years, and 61% of them were males. The majority of participants (67.5%) expressed a neutral perception towards male nurses. Additionally, a significant number of participants (58.7%) disagreed with the feminine image associated with the nursing profession. Moreover, the majority of participants (89.5%) had no gender preference regarding the gender of their care provider. The education level of the patients was found to be a significant predictor of their perception about male nurses. This study serves as a foundation for initiating a discussion on gender bias and can help policymakers reconsider rules that apply only to females in this field. To eradicate gender bias in nursing, it is crucial to raise public awareness of the role of male nurses.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

"A study to assess the patient's perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care among patients admitted in SMVMCH at Puducherry".

II. OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the patient's perception on the factor affecting gender role in nursing care
2. To associate the patient's perception on the factor affecting gender role in nursing care with selected demographic variables.

III. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The literature directs the researcher in designing the study and interpreting the outcomes. The primary purpose is to gain a broad background or understanding of the available information related to the problem. This helps the investigator to gain in-depth knowledge needed to make changes in practice and problems.

The literature review is organized under the following headings:

- **Section A: Studies related to gender role in nursing**
- **Section B: Studies related to factors affecting gender role in nursing care**
- **Section C: Studies related patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care**

SECTION A: STUDIES RELATED TO GENDER ROLE IN NURSING

Harshna Richard qadir et al. (2022) has conducted a study on the gender role in nursing. He stated that a nurse is a nurse despite of whatever gender you are. Mostly people think that men cannot give care to anyone as they are not compassionate. Good nursing care can only be given by females. But it's not true. Nursing is a caring profession. You must be in touch with your own feelings and really like people. According to the General Social Survey, progressive attitudes towards gender roles has contributed to more men entering the nursing field.

SECTION B: STUDIES RELATED TO FACTORS AFFECTING GENDER ROLE IN NURSING CARE

Joohee Shim et al. (2023) has conducted a study on the influence of gender equity in nursing education programs on nurse job satisfaction. A total of 165 male nurses participated in this study. Validated questionnaires were used to assess gender equity in nursing education programs, nurse job satisfaction, nurse job esteem, and nursing professional pride. (3) Results: The mean score of gender equity in nursing programs was 62.6, showing a positive correlation with nurse job satisfaction, nurse job esteem, and nursing professional pride. Gender equity positively predicted nurse job esteem. (4) Conclusions: The gender equity in nursing education programs has positive predictive effects on the factors that influence male nurse job satisfaction. In order to increase nurse job retention, educators should incorporate strategies to minimize gender inequity.

SECTION C: STUDIES RELATED PATIENT PERCEPTION ON GENDER ROLE IN NURSING CARE

Suresh K. Sharma et al. (2022) has conducted a study on Patient perception towards males in nursing profession in India. 400 participants at a tertiary care hospital in Uttarakhand. Data were collected using the five-point Likert scale (AMnQ), which is a standardized 5-point Likert scale that assesses patients' attitudes towards nurses. SPSS V 26 was used to analyze the data using descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. Mean age of the patients was 43.85 ± 15.85 years and 61% of them were males. Majority of participants (67.5%) expressed overall neutral perception towards male nurses. Furthermore, significant number of participants (58.7%) were disagree for the feminine image of nursing profession and majority of participants (89.5%) had no gender preference of nurses caring them. Education level of the patients was found to be significant predictor of patients' perception about male nurses.

IV. METHODOLOGY

A quantitative research approach and descriptive research design was used for this study the 30 sample and selected with the use of convenient sampling technique. Sample consists of patients are at the age of 18 to 80 years who fulfil the inclusion criteria, data collection was done with self-structured questionnaires on Assessment scale on patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care. The result was conducted using descriptive and inferential statistics.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Regarding the age, the majority 15 (50%) were in the age group of 31-40 years, 8 (26.7%) were in the age group of 41-50 years and 5(16.7%) were above the age group of 21-30 years. Regarding sex of the patient’s, majority 22 (73.3%) were male and 8 (26.7%) were female. In the aspect of religion, the data shows majority 32 (61.5%) were Hindu. Regarding education qualification, majority 16 (53.3%) completed graduation, 10 (33.3%) were completed Higher education and 2 (6.7%) were completed only primary education. With regarding to residential area, majority 20 (66.7%) were in rural area and 10 (33.3%) were in urban area. In the aspect of occupation status majority, 20 (66.7%) were employed and 2 (6.7%) were unemployed. With regards to family income majority, 16 (53.3%) belong to an income of Rs. 10,001-30,000. With regards to type of family, the data shows that the majority 22 (73.3%) were in nuclear family and 8 (26.7%) were joint family.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows frequency and percentage-wise distribution of demographic variable of patients. Table 2 reveals the frequency and percentage-wise distribution of level of patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care. The finding revealed that majority, 21 (70%) of the patient’s had positive perception and 9 (30%) of the patient’s had a neutral perception. Table 3 reveals mean, SD and mean% of level of patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care. The finding revealed that mean score of 123.9 with the SD of 18.44 the overall mean percentage is 82.6. Table 5 shows that there is significance association between level of perception of patient with the age and education qualification where ‘p’ value is < 0.05. There is no significance association between level of perception of patient with sex, religion, residential area, and occupation status family income, type of family and duration of hospitalization.

Table 1: Frequency and percentage wise distribution of level of patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care

S.NO	LEVEL OF PERCEPTION	FREQUENCY (N)	PERCENTAGE %
1.	Negative perception	0	0%
2.	Neutral perception	9	30%
3.	Positive perception	21	70%

N = 30

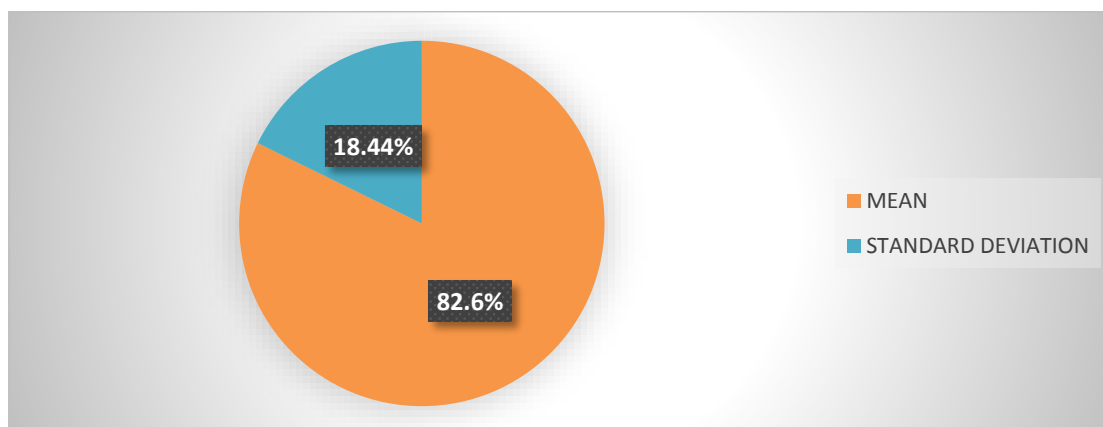


FIG 1: The finding reveals mean, SD and mean percentage of level of patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care

Table 2: Association of level of patient perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care with their selected demographic variables

N = 30

S.NO	Demographic variables	Level of Perception						X ² value
		Negative		Neutral		Positive		
1	Age in years	N	%	N	%	N	%	X ² = 7.821
	a) 21-30 years	2	6.7	3	10	0	0	p = 0.049
	b) 31-40 years	9	30	5	16.7	1	3.3	(S)*
	c) 41-50 years	3	10	4	13.3	1	3.3	
	d) ≥ 60 years	2	6.7	0	0	0	0	
2	Sex							X ² = 1.834
	a) Male	15	50	6	20	1	3.3	p = 0.175
	b) Female	1	3.3	6	20	1	3.3	(NS)
3	Religion							X ² = 3.723
	a) Hindu	6	20	8	26.7	2	6.7	p = 0.29
	b) Muslims	10	33	2	6.7	0	0	(NS)
	c) Christian	0	0	2	6.7	0	0	
	d) Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	Education qualification							X ² = 8.351
	a) Education qualification	2	6.7	0	0	0	0	p = 0.039
	b) Primary education	4	13.3	5	16.7	1	3.3	(S)*
	c) Higher education	8	26.7	7	23.3	1	3.3	
	d) Graduation	2	6.7	0	0	0	0	
5	Residential area							X ² = 1.342
	a) Rural area	13	43.3	6	20	1	3.3	p = 0.242
	b) Urban area	3	10	6	20	1	3.3	(NS)
6	Occupational status							X ² = 2.062
	a) Employed	15	50	4	13.3	1	3.3	p = 0.559
	b) Unemployed	1	3.3	0	0	1	3.3	(NS)
	c) Self-employed	0	0	8	26.7	0	0	
	d) Daily wages	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	Family income							X ² = 1.062
	a) Above 50,000/-	1	3.3	0	0	1	3.3	df = 1
	b) 30,000-50,000/-	8	26.7	0	0	0	0	p = 0.937
	c) 10001-30,000/-	7	23.3	8	26.7	1	3.3	(NS)
	d) < 10,000/-	0	0	4	13.3	0	0	
8	Type of family							X ² = 4.724
	a) Nuclear	15	50	6	20	1	3.3	p = 0.193
	b) Joint	1	3.3	6	20	1	3.3	(NS)
	c) Extended family	0	0	0	0	0	0	

9	Duration of hospitalization							X ² =2.942
	a) Less than a month	7	23.3	0	0	0	0	p = 0.40
	b) More than a month	3	10	6	20	1	3.3	(NS)
	c) More a two month	2	6.7	6	20	1	3.3	
	d) Less a week	5	16.7	0	0	0	0	

***p<0.05 - Significant; p<0.01 - Highly Significant**

VI. CONCLUSION

The present study assessed the patient’s perception on factors affecting gender role in nursing care among patients admitted in SMVMCH at Puducherry. The study findings concluded that there was a significant association between levels of perception of patient’s with the age and education qualification where ‘p’ value is < 0. 05.

NURSING IMPLICATIONS & EDUCATION

- The findings of the study have implications for various areas of nursing practice, nursing education, nursing administration and nursing research.
- Nurse educator should take the initiative to conduct education programme to enhance the patient’s perception on gender role in nursing care.

NURSING PRACTICE & ADMINISTRATION

- The study results may help the nursing personnel to understand factor affecting the gender role in nursing care
- In-service education can be arranged to the staff nurses along with awareness programme on to improve patient’s perception on gender role in nursing care.

NURSING RESEARCH & RECOMMENDATIONS

- This research findings can be utilized for the development of research-based protocols and polices in health care setting.
- Same study can be conducted with large samples.
- Same study can be conducted among the male and female patient’s to assess the patient’s perception on gender role in nursing care

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