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Name of the Study : A Study of the Clinical Teaching

Programme of Schools of Nursing

An exploratory study aimed at studying the existing status of clinical teaching programme in schools of nursing offering General Nursing Midwifery course in Delhi. The study was intended to identify the problems faced by tutors, students and clinical nursing staff in the area of Objectives, Planning and Organization, Methods, Evaluating Practices, Clinical Facilities, Administrative Problems in the clinical teaching programme. Qualitative and quantitative data was collected and analyzed. Data collection was carried out through questionnaires, documentary analysis and focus group discussions. Though Indian Nursing Council has laid down the minimum requirement and guidelines for theoretical and clinical teaching instructions for GNM course there have been many issues in its implementation.

Findings revealed tutors were involved in formulation of objectives, planning and organization, supervision, evaluating students. Tutors used various methods to develop different skills in the students. The study revealed that student's clinical experience was fraught with many problems. It was found that clearly defined objectives from all domains were not formulated in each clinical area; detailed rotation planning was not done by the teachers concerned; health care context main focus was work place goals rather than student's learning goals; over use of the clinical field; long traveling

hours for community experience; clinical assignments were not according to the level of learning; tutors were moved regularly from one clinical area to another; traditional pedagogies were inadequate in developing problem solving and critical thinking skills in students; clinical evaluation tools were not specific, valid and reliable; inadequate supervision of students by the tutors and clinical nursing staff.

Tutors reported shortage of staff for clinical supervision, lack of co-operation from service personnel, lack of time for guidance and counseling, shortage of tutors and inadequate clinical facilities as problems in clinical field. They also faced some administrative problems like no job description, seldom faculty meetings, no orientation. Problems reported by the students were overwhelming work demand placed on them, feed back vacuum, lack of role model, doing non professional nursing role. The inhibiting factors in clinical teaching were- teachers have little control over environmental conditions in clinical settings, clinical teaching is not valued, lack of self confidence in own clinical skill, certain anxiety producing issues in students. Clinical nursing staff described excessive work load, shortage of staff, lack of training in handling students and inadequate understanding of school expectations.

On the whole, the result of the study revealed that the overall improvement is needed for more effective clinical teaching programme.