

Navigating The Future: Exploring New Trends In Nursing Education

Saheli Senapati* , Jharna Bag

Abstract:

The field of nursing is continually evolving, shaped by advancements in healthcare, technology, and a growing emphasis on patient centered care. Sound empirical knowledge is important for enhancing practical skills. To comprehend ongoing trends in nursing education and at the same time prepare for the future, one must understand contemporary nursing education. This article delves into the essence of the trends in nursing education exploring different areas. Nursing education is undergoing continuous change through which it has been promoting continuous growth and development since its evolution. Factors like the pandemic, advanced technologies and socio cultural issues are driving today's trends in nursing education.

KEYWORDS: Trends, New trends, Nursing education

Date of Submission: 07-01-2024

Date of acceptance: 17-01-2024

I. Introduction :

In the ever evolving landscape of nursing, a paradigm shift is occurring – one that places the education at the heart of the nursing continuum. Different transformative approach that reshapes the dynamics between nursing education and nursing practice. The field of nursing is continually evolving, shaped by advancements in curriculum, technology, clinical teaching learning, educational quality assurance, knowledge expansion & modes of education and many more and are need of the hour now. Sound empirical knowledge is the base of nursing. Nurses are facing unimaginable circumstances by the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a need for more diversified nursing workforce in delivering care. Nursing knowledge gained by students can develop their future in such a way that can promote continuous growth and development of nursing education too.

Evolving perspective of changing nursing education curriculum:

Nursing education plays a pivotal role in preparing healthcare professionals for the dynamic challenges of the healthcare landscape. The periodic revision and changes in nursing education curriculum are essential to ensure that nursing students are equipped with the latest knowledge, skills and competencies.

Nursing education must evolve to incorporate the latest advancements in healthcare technology, treatments and research. Periodic revisions allow educators to integrate cutting edge practices, ensuring that nursing graduates are well prepared to deliver high quality patient care in a rapidly changing healthcare environment. Different accrediting bodies of respective countries often update standards and revise the curriculum of nursing education from time to time and as needed.

Indian Nursing Council is playing a pivotal role in reshaping nursing education through a groundbreaking curriculum change. INC curriculum encourages interdisciplinary learning. Revised curriculum was made for ANMs,GNM And post basic Bsc Nursing previously. Changes in the curriculum in Basic BSc nursing course is emphasizing the integration of cutting edge technology in nursing education. The new modules emphasize the development of well- rounded nursing students who not only possess clinical expertise but also connect with patients on deeper level.

Technological advancement in nursing education:

The increasing availability of technology devices or portable digital assistant devices are changing the teaching-learning landscape, including technology-supported learning. Smart phones, have become the first and the last thing that human beings interact with on a daily basis ⁽¹⁾. It has created a strong bond between human beings and their technology devices ⁽¹⁾. Technology usage plays a vital role in the facilitation of learning in higher education institutions. ⁽²⁾ In the wake of Covid-19 pandemic, nursing education has undergone a transformative journey. Current technology is making learning fun exciting, and it cuts across all disciplines including nursing education. ⁽³⁾ Technology in nursing education is used for communication of instructions to the students to enhance their creativity and critical thinking skills. ⁽⁴⁾

- **Virtual simulation and Augmented reality(AR):** It provides nursing students with realistic scenarios, allowing them to develop decision making skills in a safe and controlled environment. Augmented reality (AR) applications offer immersive learning experiences that enable students to visualize complex medical procedures and anatomy with clarity. 3D models of animated human organs on manikins are the example. The visualized organs are clearly visualized through cardiopulmonary assessment. AR technology has positive effects on students' knowledge, skills, motivation, and self-confidence in their injection practices .⁽⁵⁾
- **Mobile learning applications:** Mobile applications tailored for nursing education provide access to study materials, clinical guidelines and interactive learning modules. This helps students to stay connected with the latest developments in healthcare.
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) for nursing education:** AI driven tools are used to analyze student's learning patterns and customize educational content. This approach ensures that each student receives support, adapting to their strengths and addressing areas that require improvement. Chatbots are used for nursing training about vaccines for pregnant women and this is showing significantly better results.^(6,7) In a systemic review by Adrian Martinez- Ortigosa et al. It has been noted that AI based educational resources have potential to increase and enhance learning outcomes.⁽⁸⁾
- **Telehealth nursing :** With the surge in telehealth services, nursing education has adapted to incorporate telehealth nursing. Through telenursing nursing students can learn to navigate virtual patient interactions, assessments, understand remote monitoring system and develop effective communication skills.
- **Advanced classroom technologies:** The shift towards online learning platforms has granted nursing students greater flexibility in their education. Use of projectors, Smart boards, computer models and simulation labs are now widely used for nursing students for effective learning. Through the use of PowerPoint presentations, didactic lectures, video-based learning, case-based learning, prerecorded lectures, quizzes or online whiteboards , teaching and learning is facilitated either synchronously or asynchronously.⁽⁹⁾
- **Simulation based competency assessments:** Nursing programmes can simulate real world challenges, allowing nursing students to showcase their skills in a controlled environment. Students prepare themselves well for facing the complexities of healthcare system.

Research in nursing education

The recent concepts in nursing research within nursing education are reshaping the way nurses are trained and prepared for the dynamic healthcare landscape. The emphasis on evidence based practice continues to be an important part of nursing research in education. Educators are prioritizing the integration of latest research findings into educational contents thus students can be equipped with the most up to date knowledge and skills, fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptability. D'Souza Et al present EBP as 'retrieving evidence from different sources'.⁽¹⁰⁾The CINAHL, Cochrane, PubMed, Google Scholar databases serve as the excellent treasure for students for knowing different types of research. Different types of quantitative and qualitative research approaches are focusing on understanding the unique needs and perspectives, incorporating their voices into the educational curriculum. These concepts will surely play an important role in shaping the future of nursing education.

Nursing education in the face of covid 19 pandemic:

COVID-19 affected all aspects of nursing activity. According to Jackson et al. (2020) nurses showed high resiliency related to the theme of being "proud to be a nurse" on the frontlines providing care during the pandemic.⁽¹¹⁾ The year 2020 was named as the 'International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife' by WHO. Academic nurses have to modify and shift to online course delivery, including strategies for reasonable student engagement and examination procedures. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the ongoing tech-driven practices. This trend has not reversed as it seems beneficial for the areas of nursing education.

Diverse career pathways and different specializations:

Providing quality patient care is on the shoulders of nurses. Nurses will have to constantly upskill by refining their knowledge and skill engaging in higher education, continuous education. A student nurse should know about different career pathways and different specializations through which they can provide specialized care to patients. Different specialized courses are nurse practitioner programmes, critical care nursing, nurse anaesthesia, nurse midwifery, cardiac nursing, oncology nursing, forensic nursing, paediatric nursing, geriatric nursing, neonatal nursing, community health nursing, orthopaedic nursing, psychiatric nursing and many more.

Continuous quality improvement:

By prioritizing and maintaining high standards, nursing education institutions contribute significantly to the development of competent and compassionate healthcare professionals. Accreditation ensures that the institution meets certain standards of education and prepares students for professional practice. Accredited nursing institutes have set standards, ensuring that students receive a high-quality education. These standards can be achieved through continuous quality improvements. In recent days many of the institutions are getting the valuable standards thus proving their excellence in nursing education.

Changing trends in nursing evaluation:

Nursing education is adopting innovative evaluation methods to prepare students in a better way.

Objective structured clinical examination (OSCEs): Stations with various scenarios allow for comprehensive evaluation of student's clinical performance. It has the unique ability to assess clinical skills in a structured and standardized manner.

Technologies in assessment: Digital platforms for exams offer flexibility and efficiency in evaluating theoretical knowledge. E- portfolios and online platforms enhance documentation of clinical experiences. Personalized learning is facilitated through adaptive technology.

Competency based evaluation: It focuses on students mastering specific skills, knowledge and behaviours. It helps in standardized assessments.

II. Conclusion :

Nursing education is in a dynamic phase, adapting trends to better prepare students for future. As the profession continues to evolve, changing trends can effectively enhance the competencies of future health care professionals. Continuous exploration of best practices ensure that nursing education aligns with evolving trends.

References :

- [1]. Alsayed, S., Bano, N. & Alnajjar, H., 2020, 'Evaluating Practice Of Smartphone Use Among University Students In Undergraduate Nursing Education', *Health Professions Education* 6(2), 238–246. 10.1016/J.Hpe.2019.06.004 [Crossref] [Google Scholar]
- [2]. Al-Hariri, M.T. & Al-Hattami, A.A., 2017, 'Impact Of Students' Use Of Technology On Their Learning Achievements In Physiology Courses At The University Of Dammam', *Journal Of Taibah University Medical Sciences* 12(1), 82–85. 10.1016/J.Jtumed.2016.07.004 [Pmc Free Article] [Pubmed] [Crossref] [Google Scholar]
- [3]. Forehand, J.W., Miller, B. & Carter, H., 2017, 'Integrating Mobile Devices Into The Nursing Classroom', *Teaching And Learning In Nursing* 12(1), 50–52. 10.1016/J.Teln.2016.09.008 [Crossref] [Google Scholar]
- [4]. Harerimana, A. & Mtshali, N.G., 2019, 'Nursing Students' Perceptions And Expectations Regarding The Use Of Technology In Nursing Education', *Africa Journal Of Nursing And Midwifery* 21(2), 1–20. 10.25159/2520-5293/5103 [Crossref] [Google Scholar]
- [5]. Menon S, Cindra Holland C, Farra S, Wischgoll, Stuber M;2022, 'Augmented Reality In Nursing Education –A Pilot Study', *Clinical Simulation In Nursing*,65,57-61.
- [6]. C.L.Chang, 'Effect Of Immersive Virtual Reality On Post-Baccalaureate Nursing Students' In –Dwelling Urinary Catheter Skill And Learning Satisfaction,' *Healthcare*, Vol.10,No.8,P.1473,2022.
- [7]. S. Shorey, E. Ang, E.D.Ng,J.Yap,L.S.T.Lau, And C.K.Chui,"Communication Skills Training Using Virtual Reality: A Descriptive Qualitative Study,' *Nurse Education Today*, Vol.94, Article Id 104592,2020.
- [8]. Ortigosa Am, Granados Am, Hernandez Eg Et Al. 'Applications Of Artificial Intelligence In Nursing Care:A Systematic Review,'*Journal Of Nursing Management*. 2023 July 26;Vol 2023, Article Id 3219127.
- [9]. Singh, H.K., Joshi, A., Malepati, R.N., Najeeb, S., Balakrishna, P., Pannerselvam, N.K. Et Al., 2021, 'A Survey Of E-Learning Methods In Nursing And Medical Education During Covid-19 Pandemic In India', *Nurse Education Today* 99, 104796. 10.1016/J.Nedt.2021.104796 [Pmc Free Article] [Pubmed] [Crossref] [Google Scholar]
- [10]. D'souza, P., George, A., Nair, S., Noronha, J., Renjith, V., Unnikrishnan, B., & Bhatt, S. (2014). Resources For Evidence-Based Health Care: Accessibility And Availability. *Journal Of Education And Practice*, 5(7), 65-72.
- [11]. Jackson, D., Bradbury-Jones, C., Baptiste, D., Gelling, L., Morin, K. N. & Smith, G. D. (2020). Life In The Pandemic: Some Reflections On Nursing In The Context Of Covid-19. *Journal Of Clinical Nursing*. Doi:10.1111/Jocn.15257. Pmcid:Pmc7228254.