PP 82

Perceived barriers among nurses for conducting nursing research in Teaching hospital, Kandy, Sri Lanka

Rathnapala KKM, Kumari KCNR, Premathilaka GGKG, Dissanayaka DMCS, Perera KMON[2*], Munidasa KGPK

Department of Nursing, The Open University of Sri Lanka.

Background: The practice of research in nursing is required by all nurses parallelly to patient care. Due to limited nursing involvement in current research, researchers worldwide have identified certain barriers to conduct nursing research. One strategy to enhance research practices is to identify these barriers and implement necessary interventions to overcome them.

Objective: To identify the perceived barriers and their associations for conducting nursing research in Teaching hospital Kandy.

Method: A descriptive, cross-sectional survey design was used, 250 registered nurses working at the Teaching hospital, Kandy and had been completed more than five years in the service were selected based on the simple random sampling. The data collection tool was a self-administered, developed in house and pretested questionnaire. Descriptive analysis was used to present frequencies and distributions of reported barriers.

Results: Personal barriers and workplace related barriers were identified as the two main types of barriers. The most frequently reported barriers under personal barriers were lack of experiences and knowledge in research (89%), poor financial status (83.9%), low computer literacy and skills (75.6%) and reduced interest towards research (72.5%). The need of giving a higher priority to achieve institutional goals (92.2%), lack of support from the staff (81%), insufficient amount of study leaves (96%) and lack of available resources (85%) were the most frequently reported workplace related barriers. Demographic factors like, age, level of education of the nurses showed a statistically significant, high degree relationship with barriers, (p=0.021, p=0.03) while marital status and race showed a statistically significant, low degree relationship with barriers (p=0.001, p=0.02). Nurses above 50 years were found to be having low computer literacy level, experiences and knowledge regarding research and reduced interest towards research (p=0.038)

Conclusion: Lack of experience and poor knowledge in research was the most stated barrier under personal barriers and inability to take study leaves was found to be the most frequent institutional based barrier among nurses to reduce their motivation towards research.