
**PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION OF NURSING PROBATIONERS FROM MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY PLOVDIV – THE STUDENT’S VIEW**

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Abstract: Nursing students have been trained for educational – qualification degree “Bachelor” since 2006. A conclusive stage of the professional training of the nurses is conducting the pre-graduate practice in VII and VIII semester, according to the Unified State Requirements/ Ministerial Council Decree 248/22.11.2005, Decree 257/01.11.2010, Regulation 1/08.02.2011 and EU Directive 2005/36/EO. For the other European countries it is consistent with local regulations and EU Directive 2005/36/EO. It is conducted in accredited health units with duration of 1600 hours.

Patient, family and community take a major place in the educational process for achievement or maintenance of optimum health and life. The students’ skills and professional behaviour for team working, application of quality nursing care and compliance with moral-ethical norms of behavior are made better.

The results of quality nursing care are evaluated positively when all fundamental patient’s need are met.

The aim of the present paper is to study the health care end user opinion for the readiness of the nurses probationers to practice their profession independently.

Methods: Anonymous survey conducted in October 2016 at University Multi-profile Hospital for Active Treatment “Kaspela”, Plovdiv. Fifty patients participated in the enquiry.

Results: According to the respondents the inclusion of the probationers in the treatment process is of full value and they have the trust of patients.

Keywords: clinical training, students, probation, nurse, patients, quality.

1. INTRODUCTION

The patient is a part of a multi-disciplinary team in the modern health care system. He/she has the right to take decisions concerning his/her health condition.

The probationer nurse is a part of this multi-disciplinary team. Nowadays the nursing students are trained in a higher medical school. The probation period is the complete part of the training.

The probation period is carried out in real settings so the probationers have a possibility to apply knowledge and skills acquired during the training. The effective professional communication based on the individual care and expressed through empathy and support takes a significant place in the working process.

2. AIM

The aim of the present paper is to study the health care end user opinion for the readiness of the nurses probationers to practice their profession independently.

3. METHODS

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An anonymous survey was conducted in October 2016 at University Multi-profile Hospital for Active Treatment “Kaspela”, Plovdiv. Fifty persons participated in the empirical study, divided in two groups of indoor patients – 25 from a surgical ward and 25 from an internal ward.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data received for the first question “Do you think that the probationers are helping the nursing staff in the ward?” give us a reason to argue that 88% of the patients think that the nursing students cope well with their tasks and they help the nurses, who work in the ward.

The respondents from the internal ward are all positive. There is some hesitation in the responses in the surgical ward, however, the tendency for a positive attitude is kept, namely 76%, which makes 19 persons of the respondents from this ward. The patients in this ward demonstrate hesitation choosing “I cannot judge”. According to “gender” criteria 18% of the men and 14,3% of the women are more indecisive. According to “place of living” criteria, urban patients are more positive (80%) than rural respondents (60%). It is impressive that there are no negative answers (Figure 1).

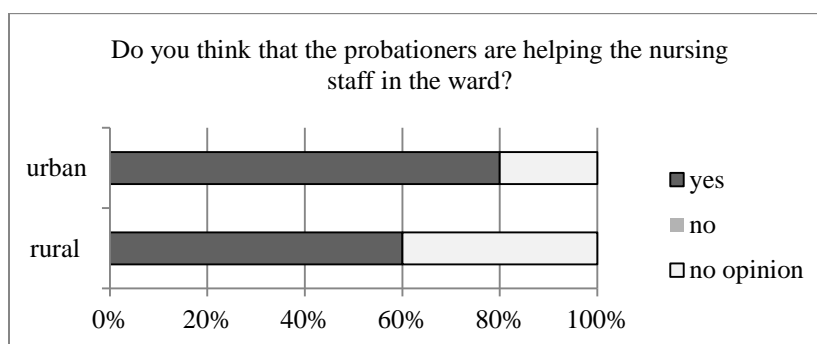


Figure 1. Responses according to the place of living in the surgical ward

We studied the opinion of the patients if they would trust the students to perform the assigned manipulations. Comparing the responses of the patients from the two wards, an impression makes the fact that 76% of those in the internal ward give positive answers, while in the surgical ward 64% of the answers are positive. The analysis of the results shows that twice less patients from the surgical ward (4%) gave negative responses than in the internal ward (8%). On the contrary, hesitation demonstrate twice more patients in the surgical ward – 32% in comparison with the internal one – 16% (Figure 2).

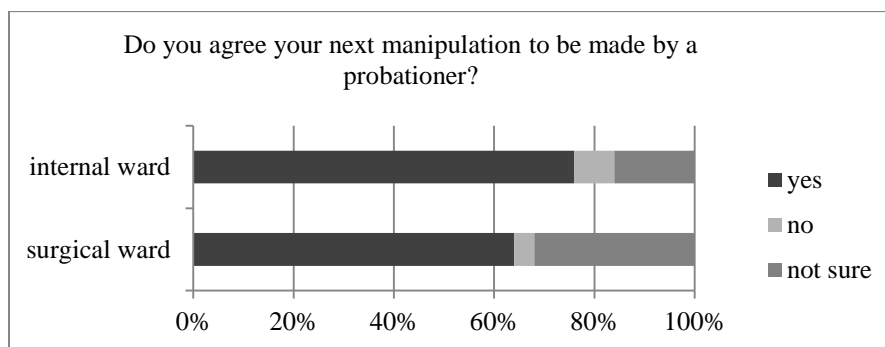


Figure 2. Agreement according to the ward

All men (100%) in the internal ward agree their manipulations to be performed by probation students, in the surgical ward men hesitate – 45,5%. It is impressive that 100% of the patients with higher education from both wards gave positive answers. This can be linked with skills acquired during the training. According to the place of living the citizens are indecisive – 15 (71,4%) persons gave positive answers, two (9,5) – negative one, 19,1%

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hesitate. People living in rural areas are unanimous – 100% agreed next manipulations to be performed by probation nurses.

Although declared trust, patients thought that the nurses mentors should control the probationers' work.

According to the survey data 84% of the respondents in both wards considered that it was necessary a graduated nurse to attend the manipulations performed by the students and only 14% responded that it was not needed. We may conclude that according to these patients the level of knowledge and practical skills of the students are enough for them to work independently.

There was not statistically significant difference in the respondents' answers in both wards according to gender, education and place of living. Patients were almost positive – 88% for the surgical ward and 76% for the internal ward that a graduated nurse should attend the manipulations performed by the students.

On the criteria "age" patients over 60 felt insecure when manipulations were made in the absence of a mentor. Insecure old people from the internal ward (35,7%) were more than those from the surgical ward (16,7%).

It was interesting to us what recommendations would health care users make to nursing trainees. There was a possibility for the participants in the survey to express their opinion. Comparing the results, we found out that 60% of the patients in the surgical ward and 20% of the respondents in the internal ward did not have any recommendations.

The answers we received were positive, encouraging and very well-meaning. The patients recommended students to continue to be responsive, well-intentioned and more confident.

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