MODERN PRACTICES IN THE FIELD OF NURSING

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ABSTRACT:

The research scholar has been associated with the Nursing profession for the past 23 years and has had the exposure of working in the capacity of Nursing Administrator. She also has had the opportunity to visit various Nursing institutions across the state of Maharashtra which has been approved by the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences [MUHS], which is considered as one of the apex bodies involved in the approval of nursing colleges.

The research topic chosen is on the basis of the experience of the research scholar and has been studied by her extensively.

She has compared the traditional methods used in the teaching as well as the introduction of modern methods on being used as well as those which could be used in the coming days.

The Researcher has drawn a logical Research Design which comprises of a descriptive survey approach, covering most of the Preceptors and students from the randomly selected Nursing colleges.

There are approximately 52 Nursing Colleges which have been established in the state of Maharashtra and they have been categorized on the basis of divisions which have been declared by the MUHS. The state has 05 divisions namely Pune, Nasik, Mumbai, Nagpur and Aurangabad.
Keywords: *Nursing, Teachings, Traditional Methods, Modern Methods, Preceptors.*

THE FOUNDATION:

In the tech savvy era most of the Indian Universities incorporated and adopted many aspects of ICT components but still it needs more chiseling because the scope of the subjects taught varies from University to University and the students who come out of these Universities are facing initial problems in serving in the technical or a research Information management. The electronic environment of the 21st century demands a range of skills from management and the Nursing Profession professionals, which include technical skills, IT skills (Web page designing and hosting, Web logs, Wikipedia, Social networking sites etc.) communication skills and managerial skills. Information management users are expecting more from the Nursing professionals for help, and advice on search techniques, database development, and quality of online databases and choice of database. As a result, the Nursing professionals need to empower to meet the diverse demands of the user community.

Due to the advent of information technology most of the libraries in our country are moving towards digitization, providing access to the information online, online catalogues, separate website for Information management etc. Nursing management is also more IT- based now. It has been noticed that IT professionals are replaced Information management professionals in few aspects. The 21st century compelled Information management professionals to become information professionals through education for information and knowledge of technology. Thus radical change should be there in this noble profession and the curriculum and syllabus keeping in view the need of information workforce in the national and global market.

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In India, there is no parity between the course structures. It also differs from the other subjects both in terms of entry level qualification and the duration of the courses. There is always a conflict with the other subjects who are following after 12th Standard education and other programs. The experts in other fields consider Information management as well as Nursing professionals as less knowledgeable.

National Knowledge Commission (2009) under the chairmanship of Sam Pitroda envisaged knowledge society as the goal for India. Knowledge Society needs information professionals well equipped with the zeal of documenting, preserving, sharing, and in short facilitating the use of information in whichever way possible for growth and development of our country.

Towards that end, Nursing Profession curricula must incorporate into it the concepts of ICTD (Information and Communication Technology for Development), Web page development, information literacy etc0 There should also be thrust so as to pressure and disseminate indigenous knowledge not only in the S. & T. sector but also in the field of literature, social sciences and also every little tit- bit that is important to portray our culture.

The recommendations of NKC (2009) viz. Preparation of National Census of libraries, reassessing staffing of libraries to assess manpower requirement for different types of libraries at all levels and to revamp Nursing education. Training and research facilities based on the manpower requirement of the country, restructuring master's and graduate degree to promote career flexibility.

NEED OF ICT IN NURSING:

The new information age has also brought about drastic changes in the users demands. Majority of them are neither satisfied by borrowing books for home reading nor are interested in spending time in Information management browsing for the needed information. In the present environment what they actually expect from the Information management / information centers is:

- Quick automated service rather than slow traditional service
- Ready information rather than information bearing documents
- Information in a wrap-up form rather than conventional form.
- Global information rather than local information.
- Online access of information rather than offline access.
- Access to hypertext rather than to bibliographical database.

In this state of transition, is important to know the past, present and future perspectives on the competencies that are required. What do the professionals know at present, what have they learnt recently and what are they expected to know in coming times? Since many of the professionals have different levels of competency with regard to information technology, ranging from being technologically literate to possessing certain advanced skills, a kind of uniformly amongst the competency level becomes essential.

PARADIGM SHIFT:

With the mind- bogging advancements in information technology the Information management and Nursing professionals are observing three major paradigm shifts (Chatterji, 2002).

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- The traditional from paper to electronic media.
- Increasing demand for accountability, with a focus on quality customer care services, performance measurement, bench marking and continuous improvement.
- New forms of work organization, such as end-user computing, work – teams, down – sizing, reengineering, outsourcing etc.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- Some of the main objectives were to find out on the existing Teaching and Learning Methods. Problems related with the existing Teaching Methods.
- Comparing and Contrasting Traditional Versus Innovative Teaching Methods.
- Preparation of Draft guidelines as part of the suggestions/Recommendations on the basis of responses generated and analysis and interpretation of the data.

LIMITATIONS:

- Language barrier has been highlighted as one of the main problem areas between them. Interpretations, understanding, communication, as well as comprehensions [mother-tongue influence, pronunciations and understanding of the subject] are the areas of concerns for both the variables of the research.
- Another area of concern is the use of traditional methods of teaching which are found to be monotonous and boring by the students. The

main attribute being that the Preceptors appointed in the colleges are found to be fresh out of college and lack in experience in teaching.

- On the basis of the demographic data available with the research scholar, it is observed that most of the Preceptors are only graduates followed by Post Graduates. Preceptors with Doctoral Degrees are negligible and do not seem to find a place in the appointments in most of the institutions.

CONCLUSIONS:

- The research scholar has introduced the concept of using ICT [Information & Communication Technology] channels in the field of Nursing education as most of the hospitals are opting for e-resources and going global rather than staying local in terms of information seeking, retrieval, dissemination as well as storage of vital data related with hospital as well as Nursing management.
- Parameters such as Total Quality Management Practices [TQM] in the field of Nursing have been highlighted with the advantages reflecting by way of Modern Education Management, stressing on Quality of services rendered and to be rendered with the patient being the receiver of such services in hospitals and the institutions of medical services.
- Proper norms should be set for the approval of the buildings of the college, specifications for

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classrooms, Computer labs, library also should be in place and any shortfalls in the basic infrastructure should not be tolerated by the approving authorities and in such cases the approvals should be kept in abeyance.

- Proper ratios need to be maintained and monitored by the statutory authorities in order to prevent malpractices on part of the colleges and the managements of such institutions.

- Proper salary scales should be introduced and given to the staff serving in the Nursing colleges. Increments and perks also should be given to the deserving faculty and staff. By such introduction, disparities may be permanently removed and staff satisfaction assured. This would be a long term benefit for all.

- Proper norms should be set for the approval of the buildings of the college, specifications for classrooms, Computer labs, library also should be in place and any shortfalls in the basic infrastructure should not be tolerated by the approving authorities and in such cases the approvals should be kept in abeyance.

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