

## ORIGINAL PAPER

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## Interprofessional collaboration and collaboration among nursing staff members in Northern Greece

**Dimitriadou A.**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing, Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece*

**Lavdaniti M.**

*Clinical Professor, Department of Nursing, Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece*

**Theofanidis D.**

*Clinical Professor, Department of Nursing, Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece*

**Psychogiou M.**

*Researcher, Department of Nursing Science, University of Kuopio, Finland*

**Minasidou Eu.**

*Associate Professor, Medical School, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece.....*

**Konstadinidou-Straukou A.**

*Head Nurse, Bodosakio General Hospital of Ptolemaida, Greece*

**Sapountzi-Krepia D.**

*Professor, Head of the Department of Nursing, Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece*

**AIM:** This study aimed at assessing satisfaction from collaboration among nursing staff members as well as between nurses and physicians, and to determine factors influencing their collaboration.

**BACKGROUND:** Studies investigating the collaboration among nursing staff members are mainly focused on its negative effects in their work, on horizontal violence among nurses, on colleagues' aggression, and on verbal abuse. Multidisciplinary and interprofessional working is currently a priority in health care.

**MATERIAL-METHOD:** The study is descriptive. The data collection was carried out through a self-administered questionnaire, which was developed by the researchers. The participants were 336 nursing staff members working in hospitals in the greater area of Thessaloniki.

**RESULTS:** 87.8% agree that colleagues in the hospital help one the other, and 76.9% agree that there is teamwork and collaboration between the various levels of nursing staff. Almost half (50.5%) disagree that no-one does not undermine the efforts of the other. Many nursing staff members (50.6%) agree that physicians collaborate very well with them. More than a half of the sample (56%) disagree that physicians have a complete picture of the activities of a nurse and 57.7% disagree that physicians underestimate too much the nursing staff.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Since the nursing work environment has a critical impact on patient safety, nursing staff members and physicians should make an effort to collaborate well and to provide quality services.

**KEY-WORDS:** Interprofessional collaboration, nurses, nursing, physicians, Greece

✉ **A. Dimitriadou**, Nursing Department, Alexander Technological Education Institute of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece PO Box 1456, GR-541 01 Thessaloniki, Greece +30 2310-791 506, +30 2310-791 501 e-mail: [adimitr@nurse.teithe.gr](mailto:adimitr@nurse.teithe.gr)