

Original Article

Analysis of Nurses' Attitudes about the Nursing Profession in Southern Turkey

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Abstract

Aim: The aim of the present study was to elicit information on Turkish nurses attitudes toward their profession.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional design was used in the study. A convenience sample of 403 nurses with at least four years clinical experience in their current institution were recruited from one university hospital and two state hospitals in a large metropolitan area of southern Turkey. The Attitude Scale toward Nursing Profession (ASNP) questionnaire was completed by the participants to determine their attitudes toward the nursing profession.

The mean score on the ASNP was 157.29 ± 17.34 , which indicates that the nurses had a positive attitude toward their profession. The nurses with a higher educational level scored more positively.

Conclusions and implications for practice: The limitation of the study is it was only made to the nurses of one hospital in Turkey. It is necessary to periodically review nurses' performance in order to evaluate their attitude toward the profession. Personal motivation may be generated by rewarding occupational successes.

Implications for nursing and health policy: It is possible to evaluate attitudes of members of the nursing profession toward nursing by the use of attitude scales concerning the profession.

Key words: Nursing, nursing practice, attitude