



## A study to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in nursing among nursing students at selected school and college of nursing, Agartala

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### Abstract

**Background:** It is important for nursing students that they must have knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing which is practically applied when providing care to the patient. Therefore, this study will assess the knowledge of nursing students of nursing college regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing.

**Materials and Methods:** A pre-experimental study was conducted to find out the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in nursing among nursing students. On 1<sup>st</sup> day pretest was done by using structured questionnaire and on same day structured teaching programme was conducted for the nursing students regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing on 8<sup>th</sup> day post test was taken.

**Result:** It has been found that the majority of the nursing students have inadequate knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing. In pretest 98.21% of the nursing students had inadequate knowledge and rest of 1.79 had moderate knowledge before attending the structured teaching programme, after structured teaching programme in post-test 100% nursing students have adequate knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing. The mean difference of pre-test and post test knowledge score was statistically significant. In paired t-test the result shown that the value is significant at >0.05% level of significance.

**Conclusion:** The Structured teaching programme was effective method of imparting knowledge to nursing students.

**Keywords:** Effectiveness, knowledge, structured teaching programme, nursing students, ethical & legal aspects of nursing

### Introduction

“A person educated in mind and not in moral is a menace to society” -Juanita Kidd.

It is a undeniable fact that nurses make decisions everyday that must take into account legal and ethical standards. The International Council of Nurses (ICN) states that the nurses have the mandate of providing care and respects and is sensitive to the values, customs and belief of people. The association has added that providing continuing education in ethical issues is an element in nursing practice.

With nearly 5,000,000 Indians dying due to medical negligence every year, experts claim that a specialised course for doctors and hospital staff focusing on how a critically ill or injured patient should be handled could bring down the figure by almost 50%.

The nursing profession is guided by the ethics as it is the best way to maintain professional discipline which gives the nurses a broad idea what is expected from a nursing professional. In the recent years, settings in the health care field has become more dynamic and the role of nurses has expanded rapidly because nurses are confronted every day with a situation in which a difficult decision must be made.

The International Council of nurses and the code of Ethics for nurses provide a framework within which nurse can make ethical decisions and fulfil their responsibilities to the public, to other members of the health team and to the profession. The four fundamental responsibilities of nurse according to the ICN preamble are: to promote health, to prevent illness, to restore health and to alleviate suffering. It is important to ascertain whether student nurses receive

adequate knowledge on the fundamental responsibility especially in developing countries like India.

### Methodology

Research methodology is a systematic way to solve the research problems.

A pre-experimental one group pre-test post-test designed study was adopted to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing.

### Research approach

Quantitative research approach was considered to be the most appropriate approach to collect the data related to effectiveness of structured teaching programme regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing among nursing students.

### Research Design

In the present study pre-experimental one group pre-test post-test design was considered to be the most appropriate.

**Table 1:** Schematic presentation for research Design

Pretest	Intervention	Posttest
O1	X	O2

### Keys

O1: Pre-test

X: STP regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing

O2: Post-test

**Variables**

Independent variable: For the present study, independent variable was structured teaching programme.

Dependent variable: Structured knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing among nursing students.

**Demographic variables:** In this study demographic variables were age in years, religion, occupation of the father, area of living, previous knowledge about legal & ethical aspects in nursing and source of information.

**Setting of the study:** Institute of Nursing Science, Agartala, Tripura.

**Population:** 1<sup>st</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 3<sup>rd</sup> year nursing students of selected college of nursing.

**Sample:** 1<sup>st</sup> year, 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 3<sup>rd</sup> year nursing students of Institute of Nursing Science, Durjoynagar, Agartala, Tripura.

**Sampling technique:** In this study non-probability purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample.

**Inclusion criteria:** The study includes nursing students

- are pursuing B. Sc Nursing in Institute of Nursing Science.
- are available during the data collection period.
- are willing to participate in the study.

**Analysis and Interpretation:** The result was computed using descriptive and inferential statistics based on the hypothesis and objective of the study.

**Objective of the study**

1. To assess the existing knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in nursing.
2. To assess the effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding legal and ethical aspects in nursing.
3. To find out the association of level of knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing among nursing students with selected Socio demographic variables.

The summary of the analysis was under the following sections:

**Section 1:** Description of socio-demographic variables of nursing students participated in the study that is sample characteristics.

**Section 2:** Assessment of knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing before and after administration of structured teaching programme.

**Section 3:** Effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing.

**Section 4:** Association between knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing with selected demographic variables of nursing students of selected nursing colleges of Agartala.

**Section 1**

Description of socio-demographic variables of nursing students participated in the study that is sample characteristics. N=56

**Table 2**

Personal Variables	F (%)
1. Age in years.	
a. 18-21 years	50(90)
b. 22-25 years	06(10)
2. Religion	
a. Hindu	54(96)
b. Muslim	02(4)
3. Occupation of the father	
a. Govt. employee	32(57)
b. Private employee	15(26)
c. Businessman	09(17)
4. Area of living	
a. Urban	26(46)
b. Rural	20(37)
c. Semi urban	10(17)
5. Previous knowledge	
a. No	08(13)
b. Yes	48(87)
6. Source of knowledge	
a. Family member	01(2)
b. Teacher	55(98)

Table 2 data reveals that, majority of the students are (90%) are within the range of 18-21 years and (10%) are within the range of 22-25 years. In regards of religion (96%) are Hindu, (4%) are Muslim. In terms of occupation of the father (57%) are govt. employee, (26%) are private employee and remaining (17%) belongs to other occupation. The data also depicts that (46%) students are living in urban area, (37%) are living in rural area, (17%) are living in semi urban area. Regarding the previous knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing, (13%) of the students have no previous knowledge, (87%) students have knowledge. In terms of source of knowledge, for 2% students the source of knowledge is family members, for (98%) students the source of knowledge is teachers.

**Section 2**

Frequency and percentage distribution of students according to level of knowledge. N=56

**Table 3**

Level of knowledge	Range of Score	Before STP		After STP	
		f	%	f	%
Inadequate	Below 10	55	98.21	00	00
Moderate	11-22	1	1.79	00	00
Adequate	23-34	0	00	56	100
Total		56	100	56	100

The above Table 3 presents the frequency and percentage distribution of nursing students according to the level of knowledge before attending the structured teaching programme. A majority of 98.21% (55) of the nursing students had inadequate knowledge and rest of 1.79% (1) had moderate knowledge before attending the structured teaching programme. The above Table 3 also presents the frequency and percentage distribution of nursing students according to level of knowledge after attending the

structured teaching programme. 100% (56) students have adequate knowledge. This section describes the findings related to distribution of knowledge before and after administering structured teaching programme as measured by structured teaching questionnaire. Data was analyzed by using descriptive statistics.

### Section 3

Frequency and percentage distribution of students according to level of knowledge.

**Table 4**

	Range	Mean
Before STP	5-16	11.36
After STP	25-33	28.89

The data presented in Table 4 representing that in before the structured teaching programme, the lower range is 5 and higher range is 16. Mean was 11.36, median was 11 and SD is 2.1. After the structured teaching programme range was 25-33, mean was 28.89, median was 28, SD was 3.01.

### Section 4

Evaluation of effectiveness of structured teaching programme in terms of knowledge score of the student. N=56

**Table 5**

Knowledge Score	Mean	Mean difference
Before STP	11.36	
After STP	28.01	17.53

Table 5 shows that the mean in the post test that is 28.01 is higher than the pre-test mean value 11.36, mean difference is 17.53 and SD difference is 0.91. Calculated 't' value is 2.00 and the df (55). This indicates that the STP was effective to increase the level of the student. Hence the research hypotheses were accepted and null hypotheses was rejected.

**Discussion:** The present study shows that 1st year, 2nd year, 3rd year nursing students had inadequate knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing. After attending the structured teaching programme they gained some knowledge about the topic and the (100%) students had adequate knowledge.

This study is supported by a similar study conducted by Mohite V, Naregal P, Kadam R, (2015) conducted a study on effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding ethical issues in nursing practice among nursing professionals. The result shows that in pre-test 2.85% had good knowledge, 16.5% had average and 80.9% had poor level of knowledge. In post test 87.6% had good, 12.4% had average and no one was having poor knowledge. This study is supported by a similar study conducted by Ms. Ramchandra M.U, Shete Sushma, Prof. Salunkhe A.H. (2016) conducted a study on effectiveness of structured teaching programme on universal precautions in hospital among 1<sup>st</sup> year B.b. Sc nursing student of karad, a pre and post test design was used, the instrument used for data collection was a knowledge questionnaire. The sample size was 80. The study concluded that STP is necessary for the nursing students of college to enhance the knowledge level and good nursing practice.

This study is supported by a similar study conducted by Sharma Ravikant, Gautam Ashish (2020) conducted a study on effectiveness of structured teaching programme on knowledge regarding administration of emergency drugs to patients among nursing students at selected college of nursing. In this research study, sample size 250 nursing students in that 66.8% are male students and 33.2% is female student. Findings shows after teaching the student they improve knowledge about emergency drugs administration.

### Conclusion

The study concluded that that structured teaching is significantly effective on improving the knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects in nursing among nursing students. The chi-square test was carried out and it was found that, out of all variables age, religion, previous knowledge and source of knowledge were significant with level of knowledge regarding ethical and legal aspects of nursing. And other demographic variables are not significant with level of knowledge at  $p < 0.05$  level of significance.

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