Sexual Harassment Prevention e-Learning Training Course for Nursing Students: Development and Effectiveness

Ya-Wen Lin, RN¹ Ya-Ling Tzeng, PhD, RN¹ Mei-Chun Shen, RN²

1.School of Nursing, China Medical University, Taichung, Taiwan 2.Department of East operating Room, National Taiwan University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan, Taipei, Taiwan



Background

Nurses are at high risk of sexual harassment because closing interaction with people and frequent physical contact with patients, especially for the nursing students who are young and inexperienced. If students encounter sexual harassment during the internship and did not properly addressed, it could affect their self-concept. It may also lead to learning difficulties, and even affect their willingness to engage in nursing in the future.. Therefore, it is important to educate nursing students to understand sexual harassment that occurs in the clinical settings and enable them being competent to deal with situations related to sexual harassment.

Purpose

The study aimed to develop a sexual harassment prevention e-learning training course for nursing students, as well as examine its effectiveness.

Results

A sexual harassment prevention e-learning training course was developed for nursing students. The contents of the e-learning training course, including the definition of sexual harassment, regulations, tips of prevention and management, clinical cases, etc. Videos, comics and multimedia were used, focused on the clinical situation. The learning objectives of the course cover three aspects, which are knowledge, skills, and attitude. Among the students who completed the study, nursing students who received sexual harassment prevention e-learning training course had significantly higher mean score (58.28 \pm 6.37, p<0.05) than those in the control group (55.24 \pm 7.57) after they finished the clinical internship.

Table

Table 1 Comparison of sexual harassment prevention score between groups

Variable	Experiment g	roup (N=67)	,	rol group V=42)	t	p-value
	n(%)	Mean±SD	n(%)	Mean±SD		
Scores		55.24±7.57		58.28±6.37	-2.26	0.026*

^{*}p<.05

Table 2 Linear Regression of sexual harassment prevention scores

Variable	Beta	SE	p value
Constant	51.91	19.36	0.008*
E-learning training course	2.98	1.41	0.037*
Gender	-0.93	1.55	0.551
Age	0.24	0.95	0.800

^{*}p<.05

Methods

A quasi-experimental research design was applied to examine the effect of the training course. A sample of 109 junior nursing students from two universities in central Taiwan was assigned to two groups: intervention (n=67), and control (n=42). Only the intervention group received sexual harassment prevention e-learning training course before their internship and the e-learning courses are available throughout their practicum. The structured sexual harassment prevention knowledge and behavior questionnaire were administered for measuring the of e-learning training effectiveness course.

Conclusion

This e-learning course is effective, it may improve the awareness of nursing students on the sexual harassment and the ability to deal with related events. This study can be used as a reference to promote the nursing practice of sexual harassment prevention. That is, effective sexual harassment prevention of digital materials not only can reduce the adverse effects of sexual harassment, but also can enhance nursing students' gender awareness and sensitivity in their clinical practice.

