



# ASSESS THE LEVEL OF PERCEIVED IMAGE OF NURSING AMONG FIRST YEAR BSc NURSING STUDENTS IN A SELECTED COLLEGE, PERINTHALMANNA

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**Abstract:** The present study entitled “Assess the perceived image of nursing among First year BSc Nursing students in a selected college, Perinthalmanna.” **Objectives:** Assess the level of perceived image of nursing among nursing students; Find out the association between perceived image of nursing with their selected demographic variables. **Methodology:** The research approach and design adopted for this study was quantitative research approach and descriptive survey research design. The study was conducted in Al Shifa College of Nursing, Perinthalmanna. Non-probability convenient sampling technique was used to select samples and data collected from 80 first semester BSc Nursing students. The data collection instruments consisted of two sections which were: Part I included questions related to socio demographic variables, Part II included Self structured 5 point rating scale used to assess the perceived image related to nursing profession. The subjects was explained about the purpose of the study. The questionnaire was prepared in google form and send to their concerned class group Analysis: Data were analysed by using descriptive and inferential statistic. **Results:** The data findings shows that majority of the participants 46(57%) belonged to the age group of 18 years. Regarding gender that female 72 (90%) are enrolled into nursing profession than male 8 (10%). Regarding religion majority are from Muslim religion 62 (78%) and from Hindu religion 13 (16%) and from Christian religion 5 (6%). Majority of the participants, 44 (55%) were from rural region. 100% of students are unmarried. Regarding educational status of father majority, 52 (65%) were schooling and regarding education status of mother majority, 57 (71%) also were schooling. Regarding occupational status of father, majority 46 (58%) have some other job and regarding occupational status of mother majority, 72 (90%) were housewife. Majority 29 (36%) of participants monthly income of family were below 25000/- Majority of participants 29 (36%) reasons for enrollment into nursing profession were desire to serve humanity and 21 (26%) of participants due to easy availability of work. Majority of participants, 69 (86%) was not getting any scholarship. Majority of participants, 60 (75%) told there is no family member in nursing. Majority of participants, 45 (56%) have no previous admission to hospital. The overall perceived image score shows that 60 (75%) have positive perceived image regarding nursing profession and 18 (23%) has uncertain perceived image and 2 (2%) has negative perceived image of nursing profession among BSc nursing first year students of selected college. The association between perceived image of nursing and selected demographic variables which was tested

by using chi-square test. The chi square values showed that there is association between gender and reason for enrollment to nursing profession with their perceived image of nursing at  $p < 0.05$  level, but there is no significant association between other demographic variables and perceived image of nursing. **Conclusion:** The study concluded that majority of the students 65% have positive perceived image regarding nursing profession. All colleges should include pre-nursing counselling and an introduction to nursing course in order to foster a good attitude toward the nursing among students.

**Keywords:** Assess, perceived image of nursing, BSc nursing student.

## INTRODUCTION

Choosing a career serves as one of the most important decisions that a person will make in their lifetime. When choosing a profession, there are many factors that influence a person's decision, including the profession's image, personal future plans, and the prospect of life-long success. In reference to the nursing profession, this decision is extremely important. Nursing is not only a job but a career, profession and also service to mankind. Nurses constitute the largest group of health-care professionals (59%) and play a key role in effective and safe health-care provision.

Nursing students are the nurses of tomorrow who will have to deal with critical public health problems. Nursing education is becoming more demanding each day. Future nurses have to consider theoretical, practical, ethical and legal aspects of their careers especially in the area of rights of patients. Individuals enter the profession with a strong perception of what it involves and how they will practice.

Perception by itself is merely defined as an idea, belief, or an image you have as a result of how you see or understand something. The nursing image is defined as how nurses or people perceive the nursing profession in society. The positive perceived image of the nursing profession is of great importance for the students who will choose the profession and therefore for the society. Nursing image is very important for nursing profession. It is the way the profession appears to others including the general public. It is vital to build and sustain a constructive picture of nursing especially in today's culture.

Nursing is considered as a critical resource, which is why it is essential to know its image to contribute to consolidating its identity and consequently increase its number and place among health-care professionals and society. Most of the studies show that students or health professionals do not have a favorable attitude toward nursing. Hence, the investigator decided to conduct a survey research to assess the perception of BSc nursing. The aim of this study was to assess the perceived image of nursing among BSc Nursing students in a selected college.

## NEED OF THE STUDY

The shortage of nurses is not a recent phenomenon, nor restricted to a specific geographical location, It is driven by the demand for growing healthcare requirements. According to the World Health Organization, it is estimated that 10.43 lakh nurses would be required in the country by the year 2012. Taking into account 3.72 lakh nurses available and 3.13 lakh nurse likely to be trained with the existing capacity, there would be shortfall of 3.50 lakh nurses. India will need 2.4 million nurses by 2012 to achieve the government's aim of a nurse-patient ratio of one nurse per 500 populations. "In India, nurse shortages occur at every level of the

healthcare system. "The states with the worst healthcare human resource shortages are also the ones with the worst health indicators and highest infant and child mortality.

The nursing profession in India lacks high professional status, has low and unattractive salaries, gets inadequate recognition from the community for the services provided by them and has little incentives for quality performance. The role of gender in the choice of a career is an extremely important concept, because men constitute nearly half of the potential recruitment pool. Noticing a male nurse being ridiculed would deter boys to think of a nursing career. Nursing Colleges have to recruit and retain qualified applicants in order to confront the current challenge in nursing resources, to reduce the current nursing shortage and ensure the delivery of quality health care.

The number of students applying to degree nursing programs across the nation is decreasing. One of the reasons could be the perceptions towards nursing profession. The image of nursing perceived by nurses and

society influences the participation of new nurses in the profession. Therefore the researcher felt a need to determine the perceptions of BSc. nursing students towards nursing profession. This study aims to assess the perception of image of nursing among BSc Nursing students in selected college.

## POPULATION AND SAMPLE

Population includes BSc Nursing students

The study comprised of 80 students studying in first semester BSc Nursing in Al Shifa College of Nursing.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A phenomenological study was conducted in 2018 to explore the image of nursing as perceived by Indonesian nurses. 19 clinical nurses participated in in-depth interviews. The interviews were audio-recorded, transcribed verbatim, and validated by relistening to the recording by researchers. The analysis was thematic. Five themes emerged (a) Islamic culture, (b) job definition, (c) role of nurses, (d) self-confidence, and (e) relationship between multigenerations of nurses. This study addressed positive and negative images of nursing. The study concluded that findings may be used for nurse managers to improve nursing image through the improvement of nurse competence and continuing professional development.

A quantitative study was conducted to assess the perceived image of nursing profession among B.Sc Nursing student of Kamrup (Metro) Assam. Descriptive research design was used for the study. Convenience sampling technique was used to select two nursing college to collect data from 80 student. The data collection instruments consisted of three sections which were: Part I included questions related to socio demographic Performa, Part II included Self structured 5 point rating scale will be used to assess perceived image related to nursing profession. Part III included Self structured 5 point rating scale to assess the Factors influencing the nursing image as a profession among nursing students. The overall perceived image score shows that the 50(62.5%) have positive perceived

image regarding nursing profession and 30(37.5%) has uncertain perceived image and there is no negative perceived image of nursing



profession among B.Sc nursing 4th year student of selected colleges. The influencing factors score revealed that majority 48( 60%) of participants had moderately influencing factors and 32(40%) of participants had greatly influencing factors for enrollment to nursing program among B.Sc Nursing student. The study concluded that there is a good positive correlation between perceived images of B.Sc nursing students and influencing factors for enrollment in nursing program among B.Sc Nursing students of Kamrup (Metro), Assam.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the level of perceived image of nursing among first year BSc Nursing students in a selected college, Perinthalmanna

### OBJECTIVES

- Assess the level of perceived image of nursing among nursing students
- Find out the association between the perceived image of nursing with their selected socio demographic variables.

### HYPOTHESIS

- H1-There is significant association between perceived image of nursing with their selected demographic variables

### CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

The study was based on Health belief model

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

**Research approach:** Quantitative approach

**Research design:** Descriptive survey research design

**Setting:** The study was conducted in Al Shifa College of Nursing, Perinthalmanna.

**Sample:** The samples were nursing students in first semester BSc Nursing in Al Shifa College of Nursing.

**Sample size:** In this study sample size is 80

**Sampling technique:** Convenient sampling technique

**Tool and technique:** Self structured questionnaire

Section A

**Socio demographic variables:** It consist of 14 items including age in years, gender, religion, place of residence, marital status, educational status of mother, educational status of father, occupational status of mother, occupational status of father, monthly income of family, reason for enrollment in nursing, any scholarship, any family member in nursing, any previous admission to hospital.

Section B

**Perceived image of nursing:** Self structured questionnaire using 5-point Likert scale which includes strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree and strongly agree. It includes 27 items. Strongly disagree and disagree together constitute negative image of nursing, Neutral indicates uncertain and strongly agree and agree constitutes positive image of nursing.

## DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

The formal approval from Principal, Al Shifa College of Nursing, IRB and ethical committee of the institution was obtained. The subjects was explained about the purpose of the study. The self-structured questionnaire was prepared in google form and send to their concerned class group. The analysis was done based on the response of the samples.

## ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

Ethical clearance was taken from institutional authorities and ethical committee.

## RESULTS

Section A: Distribution of samples based on socio demographic variables

The characteristics of the study population were as follows:

Majority of the study participants, 46(57%) belonged to the age group of 18 years. 26 (33%) of the study participants belonged to the age group of 19 years. 7 (9%) belonged to 20 and above age group and only 1 (1%) belonged to the age group of 17 years.

With respect to gender, majority of the study participants 72 (90%) were female compared to that of male who were about 8 (10%)

With regard to religion, majority of the study participants 62 (78%) were Muslims. 13 (16%) of the study participants were Hindus and about 5 (6%) were Christian religion.

With respect to place of residence, majority of study participants 36 (45%) belonged to urban region. 44 (55%) of the study participants belonged to rural region.

With regard to marital status, (80) 100% of the study participants were unmarried.

With respect to educational status of father, majority 52 (65%) were schooling. 20 (25%) of them were undergraduates and only 8(10%) of them were post graduate. None of them were illiterate.

With regard to the educational status of mother, majority 57 (71%) were schooling. 16 (20%) of them were undergraduates and only 7(9%) of them were post graduate. None of them were illiterate.

With regard to the occupational status of father, majority 46 (58%) are doing some other job. 18 (22%) are doing business, 11 (14%) are doing private job and about 5 (6%) are doing government job.

With respect to the occupational status of mother, majority 70 (90%) are housewife. 8 (10%) of them are doing private job. None of them are having own business or any government job.

With regard to the monthly income of family, majority 29 (36%) are below 25000/-. 26 (33%) among them are between 50000-100000/-, 24 (30%) among them are between 25000-50000/- and only 1 (1%) are having monthly income of more than 1 lakh

With respect to reason for enrollment in nursing, majority 29 (36%) told their desire to help others. 21 (26%) of them due to easy availability of work, 15 (19%) due to some other reason, 11 (14%) of them to improve the financial situation and only 4 (5%) among them as their family members advice them.

With regard to availability of any type of scholarship, majority 69 (86%) of the study participants are not receiving compared to 11(14%) of the study participants who is receiving.

With respect to any family members in nursing, majority 60 (75%) of the participants doesn't have any relations compared to 20 (25%) of the study participants who have the family member in nursing.

With regard to any previous admission to hospital, majority 45 (56%) of the study participants doesn't have any previous admission compared to 35 (44%) of the study participants who has been admitted to hospital before.

N=80		
DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES	FREQUENCY (f)	PERCENTAGE (%)
<b>Age in years</b>		
17years	1	1%
18years	46	57%
19years	26	33%
20years and above	7	9%
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	8	10%
Female	72	90%
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	13	16%
Muslim	62	78%
Christian	5	6%
<b>Place of residence</b>		
Rural	44	55%
Urban	36	45%
<b>Marital status</b>		
Married	0	0
Unmarried	80	100%
<b>Educational status of father</b>		
Illeterate	0	0
Schooling	52	65%
Undergraduate	20	25%
Postgraduate	8	10%
<b>Educational status of mother</b>		
Illeterate	0	0
Schooling	57	71%
Undergraduate	16	20%
Postgraduate	7	9%
<b>Occupational status of father</b>		
Government job	5	6%
Private job	11	14%
Own business	18	22%
Any other job	46	58%

<b>Occupational status of mother</b>		
Government job	0	0
Private job	8	10%
Own business	0	0
House wife	72	90%

<b>Monthly income of family</b>		
Below 25000/-	29	36%
25000-50000/-	24	33%
50000-1 lakh	26	30%
More than 1 lakh	1	1%

<b>Reason for enrollment in nursing</b>		
Desire to help others	29	36%
Easy availability of work	21	26%
To improve the financial situation	11	14%
Family members advice them	4	5%
Due to some other reason	15	19%

<b>Any type of scholarship</b>		
Yes	11	14%
No	69	86%

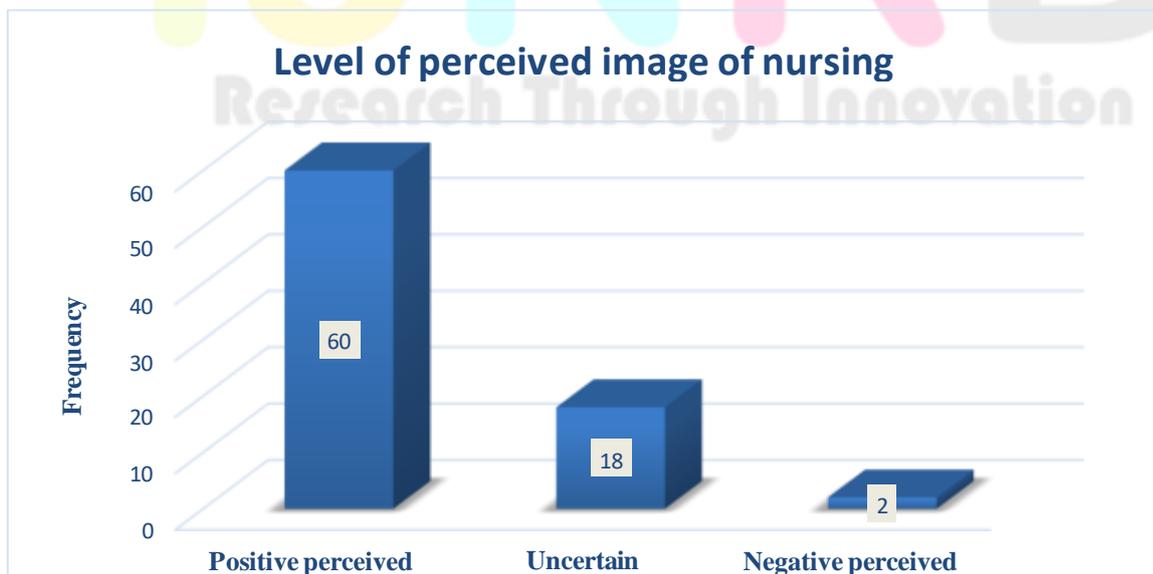
<b>Any family members in nursing</b>		
Yes	20	25%
No	60	75%

<b>Any previous admission to hospital</b>		
Yes	35	44%
No	45	56%

**SECTION B**

**Assess the level of perceived image of nursing**

The overall perceived image score shows that 60 (75%) have positive perceived image regarding nursing profession and 18(23%) has uncertain perceived image and 2 (2%) has negative perceived image of nursing profession among BSc nursing first year student of selected college.



## SECTION C

### To find out the association between perceived image of nursing with their selected demographic variables.

The chi square values showed that there is association between gender and reason for enrollment in nursing profession with their perceived image of nursing at  $p < 0.05$  level, but there is no significant association between other demographic variables and perceived image of nursing.

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