12th WORLD NURSING FORUM

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Nurses' knowledge and perception about developing an advance practice nurse role in Pakistan: a qualitative study

Problem statement: The advanced practice nurse (APN) is a masters prepared registered nurse with sound knowledge and clinical expertise for expanded practice which is defined by the country in which APN practices. The growth of the APN role has shown profound healthcare development outcomes including improvement in quality of patient care and patient safety, mitigation of the physician shortage in underserved areas, improved perception of the public image of nursing, and cost of delivery. The APN role was established in the 1960s in the United States. After five decades, approximately fifty countries have adopted the APN model. However, Pakistan healthcare system has yet to embrace the APN role.

Purpose of the study: The purpose of this study is to identify nurses' knowledge and perception about developing an advance practice nurse role in Pakistan. Methodology: Twelve semi-structured interviews were conducted among nurses from all over Pakistan. Data analysis was performed by thematic analysis using thematic network.

Results: The preliminary data analysis revealed that nurses believed introducing APN role in Pakistan will enhance accessibility of healthcare in the underserved areas. In tertiary care settings, APN will bring consistency in care delivery which will improve quality of care. APN will deliver a cost-effective care and will be more approachable. Additionally, establishing APN role will improve nurses' image and career prospects which will increase nurses retention and satisfaction rate. However, nurses expressed that Pakistan's political and legislative structure, opposition from the physicians, lack of quality nursing education, and unacceptability from general public would be the major limitations for establishing APN role. Some nurses also expressed the opposition from seasoned nurses and nursing leaders as one of the barriers.

Conclusion and significance: It is critical to develop APN role in Pakistan to address the growing need for healthcare access, improved patient and population outcomes, and increased recognition of nursing profession and career opportunities.

Recent Publications

1. Almukhaini, S., Martin-Misener, R., Weeks, L. E., Macdonald, M., Hussain, H., Macdonald, D., Al-Ismaili, Z., Al-Fahdi, N., & Rothfus, M. A. (2020). Advanced practice nursing roles in Arab countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region: a scoping review protocol. JBI Evidence Synthesis 19(4), 891-898. https://10.11124/jbies-20-00002

2. Behrens, S. A. (2018). International Nursing: Constructing an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Practice Model in the UAE: Using Innovation to Address Cultural Implications and Challenges in an International Enterprise. Nursing Administration Quarterly, 42(1), 83-90. https://10.1097/NAQ.0000000000000273

3. Bryant-Lukosius, D., Spichiger, E., Martin, J., Stoll, H., Kellerhals, S. D., Fliedner, M., Grossmann, F., Henry, M., Herrmann, L., Koller, A., Schwendimann, R., Ulrich, A., Weibel, L., Callens, B., & De Geest, S. (2016). Framework for Evaluating the Impact of Advanced Practice Nursing Roles. Journal of Nursing Scholarship, 48(2), 201-209. https://10.1111/jnu.12199

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Biography

Rozmeen Shivji is an assistant professor in the Adult Gerontology Acute Care, Doctor of Nursing Practice Program at RUSH College of Nursing, Chicago, USA. She is a board-certified Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP). She has practiced as ACNP for over 15 years in various settings including medical intensive care, lung transplant, neuro-interventional radiology and leukemia. She has a vast teaching experience; she has traveled internationally (Africa and Asia) to teach critical care nursing. Her research interests are growth and development of APN role, utilization of rapid response systems/teams, and application of high-fidelity simulation in teaching and learning.

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