

## Analysis on College Nursing Students' Cognition for Community Health Services

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**Abstract.** Objective: To understand college nursing students' cognition for community health services, improve junior college students' overall quality and promote the development of community health services. Method: The independently designed questionnaire entitled College Nursing Students' Cognition for Community Health Services was issued to those students, and the data were statistically analyzed through SPSS22.0. Results: Students' cognition for community health services mainly comes from internship (practice), followed by class teaching; college nursing students' cognition for community health services is lower; junior college students' willingness to become a volunteer or internship or to work in the community is stronger than that of undergraduate and graduate students; the proportion of the undergraduate nursing students who hold the opinion that the employment in community health services is closely related to the major is lower than that of junior college students and undergraduate students. Conclusion: College nursing students' cognition for community health services is lower as limited by cognition source; the willingness to participate in community health services varies with nursing students with different educational backgrounds. As a result, schools shall strengthen publicity of relevant community services knowledge, combine theories and practice and correctly guide nursing students on their employment attitude towards community nursing.

### Introduction

As the improvement in medicine and people's living quality leads to prolonged average life expectancy, accelerating aging of China's population and increasingly serious diseases for the old and chronic diseases, the existing medical institutions can no longer meet peoples' need for doctors [1].Owing to close relationship between the development of community nursing and China's national condition and residents' needs, it is urgently required to develop community nursing. Despite that community endowment has become a new endowment pattern in China, the number of China's community nurses is greatly inconsistent with the actual needs, and community nurses do not enjoy high degrees and professional standards[2].Therefore, nursing students' cognition for community health service centers was surveyed in the manner of questionnaire to understand college nursing students' willingness to participate in community health services, enable nursing students to grasp community health service knowledge as early as possible, and provide reference for the development of community nursing.

### Sample and Methods

#### Sample

300 nursing students from one college in Wuhan, including 100 with college degree, 100 with bachelor's degree, 94 with master's degree; 59 male students, 265 female students.

Inclusion standards: 1) Junior college students, bachelors and graduates majored in nursing of one college in Wuhan; 2) those willing to participate and independently fill in the questionnaire after explanation on study objectives by the investigator.

Exclusion standard: Those unable to independently fill in the questionnaire or unwilling to participate.

## Methods

**Survey Tool.** The questionnaire is designed at discretion after reference of relevant bibliographies [3-8]. It is divided into two parts including 20 items. The first part is basic information of nursing students including sex, age, education and grade under 4 items. The second part includes nursing students' cognition for community health services and their willingness to participate in internship or employment in community services under 16 items.

**Survey Method.** The questionnaire survey was conducted in anonymity. The investigator handed out questionnaire on site, and nursing students independently filled in the questionnaire to be collected upon completion. There were 294 questionnaires in total, all of which were collected with 100% collection rate and 100% effective rate.

**Statistical Method.** The SPSS22.0 statistical analysis software was used to analyze the data of survey results.

## Results

### Basic Information

Among 294 nursing students, there are 100 junior college students (accounting for 34%), 100 undergraduate students (accounting for 34%) and 94 graduate students (accounting for 32%), including 29 male students (accounting for 9.9%) and 265 female students (accounting for 90.1%). Their ages varies between 19 and 36, and the average age is  $21.15 \pm 2.799$ .

### Sources of Cognition for Community Health Services

There is statistical difference for nursing students with different educational backgrounds in the cognitive source of community health services ( $\chi^2=63.438$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ). The cognitive source of college nursing students for community services is mainly practice (internship) (38.43%), followed by class teaching (36.73%), newspaper, magazine and TV news (11.6%). 9.2% students have provided community health services, and 4% students have listened to extracurricular lectures. The cognitive sources of 94% junior college students, 77% undergraduate students and 50% graduate students for community services are practice (internship) and class teaching.

### Cognition for Community Health Services

1)As for community health services, 13 students (4.4%) are quite ignorant, 148 students (50.3%) are not familiar, 93 students (31.6%) are familiar, 37 students (39.4%) are relatively familiar, and 3 students (3.2%) are quite familiar. 2)The understanding of nursing students with different educational backgrounds for resident health records. 86 students (29.3%) are familiar, including 23 junior college students (23%), 32 undergraduate students (32%) and 31 graduate students (32.9%). 3)There is statistical difference for nursing students with different educational backgrounds in the relationship between community health services and their major ( $\chi^2=17.999$ ,  $P < 0.05$ ). 238 students (80.9%) think that the employment in community health services is closely related to their major, including 82% junior college students, 79 undergraduate students and 81.9% graduate students. 4) 91.16% nursing students think that the interaction between nursing education and community health services centers can improve nursing education of schools.

### Willingness to Participate in Community Health Services

There is statistical significance in the willingness to learn community health services knowledge, practice in the community and be engaged in community nursing ( $P < 0.05$ ); there is no statistical significance in the willingness to be a volunteer in the community ( $P > 0.05$ ). See Table 1.

Table 1. Willingness to Participate in Community Health Services among the Nursing Students of Different Academic Background.

The independent variables	Different academic background			$\chi^2$	P
	junior college Students n(%)	Undergraduate students n(%)	Graduate students n(%)		
Whether willing to learn community health services knowledge				31.459	0.00
Hardly	5(5%)	2(2%)	4(4.3%)		
Rarely	13(13%)	17(17%)	8(8.5%)		
Moderately	60(60%)	63(63%)	41(43.6%)		
Keenly	19(19%)	18(18%)	27(28.7%)		
Strongly	3(3%)	0(0%)	14(14.9%)		
Whether willing to be a volunteer in a community				4.594	0.101
Yes	90(90%)	79(79%)	79(84%)		
No	10(10%)	21(21%)	15(16%)		
Whether willing to practice in the community				12.371	0.002
Yes	87(87%)	84(84%)	64(68.1%)		
No	13(13%)	16(16%)	30(31.9%)		
Whether willing to be engaged in community nursing				7.041	0.03
Yes	62(62%)	44(44%)	54(57.4%)		
No	38(38%)	56(56%)	40(42.6%)		

## Discussion

### College Nursing Students' Cognition for Community Service to Be Improved

According to the survey on sources of learning about community health services, the main source is practice (internship), followed by class teaching. We learn from the survey that the proportion of students who understand community health services is less than 1/2, while the proportion of students who understand resident health records is only 29.3% in the total students in the survey. 23 junior college students (23%) understand resident health records, whose cognition is lower than graduate and undergraduate students. It results from obvious difference in educational system, courses, credit hours and teaching contents between junior college students and graduate and undergraduate students, and possibly practice (internship) period and times which are exactly consistent with sources. Meanwhile, 91.16% nursing students think that the interaction between nursing education and community health services centers can improve nursing education of schools. In order to develop communities, therefore, it is essential to improve college nursing students' cognition for community services, strengthen education and publicity on community education, and enhance practical teaching in communities for nursing students. Wang Xiaoyang[9], also stresses the combination of community clinical medical students' theory and practice.

## **Willingness to Participate in Community Health Services**

According to the results shown in Table 1, we learn that the students who want to know about community health services knowledge have the same large proportion in the nursing students with different educational backgrounds, while the junior college students' willingness to become a volunteer or internship or to work in the community is stronger than that of undergraduate and graduate students. It represents that nursing students with different educational backgrounds have different occupation orientations, and junior college students' employment pressure is greater than that of undergraduate and graduate students. 80.9% nursing students hold the opinion that the employment in community health services is closely related to the major, while the proportion of undergraduate students is lower than junior college students and undergraduate students, which suggests that undergraduate students are more negative about the employment in community health services. The result is consistent with what have been reported by Jiang Xiaoying[10].It requires colleges to strengthen occupational guidance for nursing students with different educational backgrounds and correctly guide them on employment attitude towards community nursing to enable them to understand the significances and prospects of community nursing and recognize potential community nursing markets, thus improving employment rates of nursing students in community nursing and promoting the development of community work.

## **Limitations**

This study mainly surveyed nursing students with different educational backgrounds in our school. It is impossible for the small number of samples to reflect the cognition of all nursing students in our province. Also, this study did not analyze the factors that affect the willingness to participate in community health services. The future study can learn from the above-mentioned two aspects to make the survey more comprehensive.

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