



Undergraduate Nursing Students' Recommendations for Intercultural Communication in Academia and Practice

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BACKGROUND

- Documented evidence of concerns of students and practicing nurses about challenges in engaging in effective intercultural communications during clinical encounters is becoming alarming.^{1,2,3}



- Some nursing students/nurses lack the knowledge and skills to interact with clients from diverse cultural backgrounds.^{1,3,4,5,6}
- Difficult intercultural communication encounters in healthcare result in racism, health inequities and negative health outcomes.^{2,4,7}
- There is limited literature on promising ways to enhance intercultural communication within nursing education and practice.^{1,8,9}

STUDY PURPOSE

- Explore the perspectives of undergraduate nursing students on how to enhance intercultural communication in nursing education and practice.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Research Questions:

- What are the perspectives of nursing students on intercultural communication?
- How can intercultural communication be improved through the lens of nursing students?

Sample Interview Question:

- How do you think intercultural communication can be improved in nursing education and practice?



METHOD

Study Design:
Qualitative descriptive study

- Setting:** Western Canadian University

- Sampling:** Purposive, N=10 English-speaking 4th-year undergraduate nursing students

Data Collection:
45-60 minutes, semi-structured, digitally-recorded, 1:1, in-person interviews

- Ethics & site access approval** obtained from all institutions involved

- Recruitment:** Email invitations & poster adverts

Data Analysis:
Content analysis

- Verbatim transcription

- Study rigor:** Multiple data sources (transcripts + reflective journal), member checking

DISCUSSION

- Participants' overarching comments - "one size does not fit all" in relational practice.
- Call for proactive/innovative steps in development of intercultural communication skills.
- Leaders in academic/healthcare institutions and all nurses need to advocate for intercultural communication skills among all healthcare professionals.
- Need for individualized care that values the clients' culture and incorporates their unique needs.

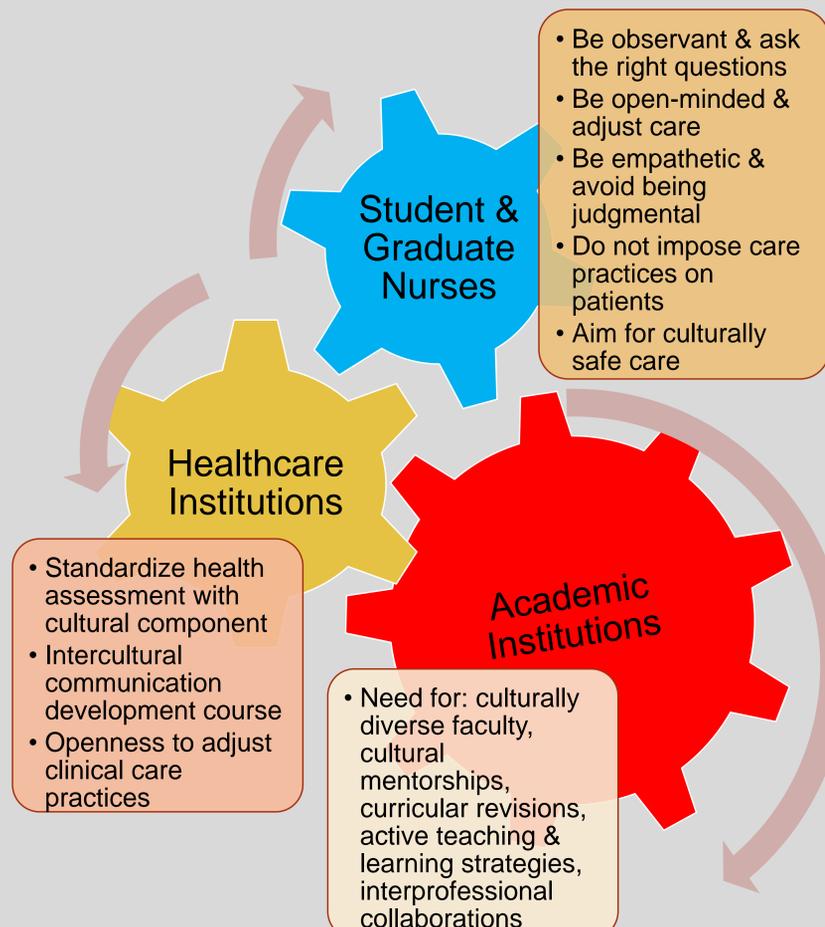


CONCLUSION

The study:

- Created new knowledge to address challenging intercultural communication for current and future nurses, and system levels to improve health care delivery and health outcomes.
- Provided strategies to improve relational practice, patient-centered, and culturally safe nursing care.
- Provided recommendations for nursing education and practice, policy, and further research.

FINDINGS



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