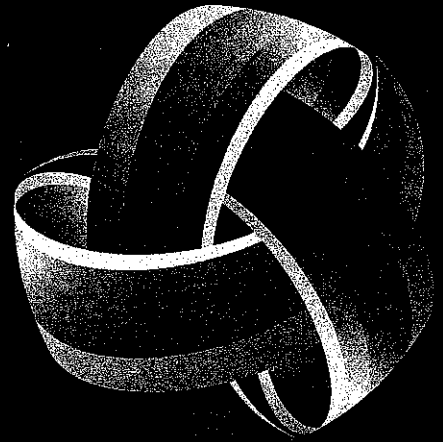


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Analysis of Undergraduate Nursing Education in Sri Lanka

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Introduction: Globally, the major trend in nursing education is the move from hospital-based training to university-based education, enabling the acquisition of university degree education as a minimum preparation for beginning professional nursing practice. In Sri Lanka, nursing education is moving from a 3-year general nursing certificate to a 4-year university bachelor degree. The purpose of this analysis was to examine the current situation of nursing education in Sri Lanka and its impact on developing professionalism in nursing.

Method: The literature review was conducted using documented search strategy and data analysis using major electronic databases including Medline, EMBASE and CINHAI until 2016. In addition, unpublished reports, personal communication and government reports relevant to nursing and healthcare education, and websites were searched to obtain data. The references list of all identified reports and articles was searched for additional studies. Hand searching of relevant Sri Lankan journal and government reports was undertaken to reveal any additional literature.

Results: There has been a minimal effort to improve the standards of pre-registration nursing education programs in Sri Lanka due to inadequate involvement of key stakeholders in nursing services and education in Sri Lanka. However nursing education in Sri Lanka has shown a significant improvement during last few years and nurses today show more awareness about their professional roles and higher education.

Conclusion: In the future more than ever, nurses will need a solid university education, assertiveness skills, technical competence and ability to deal with a rapidly changing health care environment.

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