Cultural Competency Among Paediatric Registered Nurses in Saudi Arabia: A cross sectional design

Abstract

Background: Saudi Arabia's culturally diverse population is growing rapidly. The need for cultural competence is greatest in Paediatric units where nurses provide care to children in collaboration with their parents. **Aims:** To assess the level of culture competence among RNs in Saudi Arabia. **Method:** The sample of 394 nurses and cross-sectional descriptive correlational design was used to investigate nurses' cultural competence, and to examine the relationships between there variables and participants' demographic data. Using non-probability sampling, nurses working in Paediatric units across five hospitals in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia's capital, were asked to complete a self-report questionnaire. Three of these hospitals are under the Ministry of Health (MOH), and the other two are under the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE). **Results:** An analysis of the data showed a mean cultural competence score of 4.88, and a mean self-reported competence of 4.13. These results suggest a high degree of cultural competency. Participants' scores on the Culture Awareness Sensitivity subscale indicated high levels of perceived cultural awareness and sensitivity (M=4.98, 71.1%). The mean Culture Competence Behaviour subscale score for the performance of culturally competent behaviours was (M=4.78, 68.2%). **Conclusion:** The findings revealed a high level of culture competence despite a lack of information with respect to patient views.

Keywords: cultural awareness, cultural competence, cultural diversity, cultural sensitivity, registered nurses, Saudi Arabia, survey.