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National comparative curriculum evaluation of baccalaureate nursing degree: Status, issues and reforms

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Abstract

In 1993, the first baccalaureate nursing program was established at Medical College in Ulaanbaatar, followed by programs at 8 universities. Now baccalaureate nursing programs are offered at 4 public and 5 private universities and most have a four-year curriculum and follow a medical model. It highlighted the need to change nursing education curriculum in Mongolia from the illness-focused curriculum to a health-based one and from the focus on acute care to primary care. The primary aim of the study was to evaluate current baccalaureate nursing education curricula. The eligibility criteria for inclusion in this evaluation included Mongolian university baccalaureate nursing programs. Content analysis was employed as the primary method of inquiry in this descriptive study. Required courses and electives are the two basic categories of courses in the curriculum with subcategories within both. Subcategories under required courses include general education courses, professional foundation courses, and nursing courses (including practicum). The general education courses as a percentage of total curricula across the nine curricula ranged from 22 to 30.4 with a mean of 26.3. The proportion of professional foundation courses in the total curriculum time ranged from 33.5% to 44.6% with a mean of 38.9%. The share of nursing courses in the nine curricula ranged from 32.1% to 40.2% with a mean of 34.8%. In here, many of the course titles are changed from medical terms, but only suffixed with 'nursing'. The nursing specialty courses are arranged according to the subspecialties in clinical medicine. More specifically, the curriculum configuration was copy of the medical education model. Practicum is a major component in nursing courses that constituted, with a mean 9.8% of the time allocation within the category.

Biography

Baigalmaa Dovdon is a lecturer at the School of Health Technology, Health Sciences University of Mongolia. She received her Master of Medical Science from Health Sciences University of Mongolia and Master of Health Care Administration from Strayer University in Washington, DC, USA. Now she is pursuing her doctoral study in the Seoul National University of Korea. Her research interest is nursing education innovation with curricula and quality of health care.

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