



# “Knowledge And Attitude Regarding Nursing Profession Among Higher Secondary Students In Selected Educational Institutions Of Kamrup (M), Assam With A View To Develop Information Booklet: A Descriptive Study.”

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## ABSTRACT

## BACKGROUND

Nursing is a unique profession within the health care sector that focused on the care of individuals, families and communities so they may attain, maintain, or recover optimal health and quality of life. According to WHO (3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024) report, there are an estimated 29 million nurses worldwide and 2.2 million midwives. WHO estimates a shortage of 4.5 million nurses and 0.31 million midwives by the year 2030. To address the shortage by 2030 in all countries, the total number of nurse graduates would need to increase by 8% per year on average, alongside an improved capacity to employ and retain these graduates. Knowledge and Attitude of Higher secondary Students about nursing are important because they offer strategic clues towards successful recruitment of the next generation of nurses.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the level of Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam.
2. To assess the level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam.
3. To find out correlation between Knowledge and Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam.
4. To find out association of Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with the selected demographic variables.

5. To find out association of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with the selected demographic variables.

## METHOD AND MATERIAL

A descriptive study design was used to accomplish the objectives using non-probability convenience sampling technique. Study was done on 200 Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam. Participants were selected based on inclusion criteria. Semi structured Knowledge questionnaire and 5-point Likert Scale were used to assess the level of Knowledge and Attitude.

## RESULTS

The findings of the study showed that out of 200 Higher secondary Students, majority 191(95.5%) has moderate knowledge, 6(3%) has inadequate knowledge and 3(1.5%) has adequate knowledge. Whereas in Attitude, 143(71.5%) has moderate attitude and 57(28.5%) has desirable attitude regarding Nursing Profession.

There was a positive correlation ( $r=0.302$ ) between Knowledge and Attitude at  $p<0.001$  level.

The analysis revealed that demographic variables did not show statistically significant association with level of Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students at  $p<0.05$  level and the demographic variable, family members who undergone course of nursing ( $p=0.049$ ) had statistically significant association with level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students at  $p<0.05$  level and the other demographic variables did not show statistically significant association with level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students at  $p<0.05$  level.

## CONCLUSION

From this study, it was concluded that majority of Higher secondary Students had moderate Knowledge and majority of Higher secondary Students have moderate Attitude regarding Nursing Profession.

Therefore, the investigator concluded that proper awareness program about Nursing Profession in the society are needed to improve the Knowledge and Attitude of Higher secondary Students regarding Nursing Profession.

## KEY WORDS

Knowledge, Attitude, Nursing Profession

## INTRODUCTION

Nursing is identified as a profession based on the criteria that a profession must have; a systemic body of knowledge that provides the framework for the profession's practice, standardized formal higher education, commitment to providing a service that benefits individuals and the community, maintenance of a unique role that recognizes autonomy, responsibility and accountability, control of practice responsibility of the profession through standards and a code of ethics, evidence based practice and commitment to members of the profession through professional organizations and activities.

## NEED OF THE STUDY

According to World Health Organization (3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024) report, there are an estimated 29 million nurses worldwide and 2.2 million midwives. WHO estimates a shortage of 4.5 million nurses and 0.31 million midwives by the year 2030. To address the shortage by 2030 in all countries, the total number of nurse graduates would need to increase by 8% per year on average, alongside an improved capacity to employ and retain these graduates.

According to International Council of Nurses (20<sup>th</sup> June 2024) report, amidst our global shortage of millions of nurses, some high-income countries continue to plug staffing gaps by actively recruiting nurses from vulnerable countries already facing severe health workforce shortages.

Based on above facts, there is a great shortage of nurses and undesirable attitude towards nursing profession. The students of class 12 are in the stage where they start to explore their career opportunities and they are also

the potential candidates to study nursing. This study is the approach to generate the data regarding the Knowledge and Attitude of Higher secondary Students towards the Nursing Profession to identify and if necessary to correct the Attitude and view of students towards the Nursing Profession by providing an Information Booklet. Hence this study was undertaken by the investigator.

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## METHODOLOGY

A descriptive study design was used to accomplish the objectives using non-probability convenience sampling technique. Study was done on 200 Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam. Participants were selected based on inclusion criteria. Semi structured Knowledge questionnaire and 5-point Likert Scale were used to assess the level of Knowledge and Attitude.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL

In order to meet the objectives of the study, the following tools were constructed which consists of three sections:

SECTION-I: DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

SECTION-II: SEMI STRUCTURED KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION-III: ATTITUDE SCALE

## DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

The data collection took place over a 3-week period from 10<sup>th</sup> September to 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 in three selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam.

Prior to data collection, ethical approval was obtained from the ethical committee INS trust GNRC, Dispur and Principal of Educational institutions. The head of the different Educational institutions was also informed regarding the study, period of data collection and confidentiality of participants was ensured.

A written consent was also taken from 200 Higher Secondary Students before the data collection, who fulfilled the inclusion criteria. The maximum time respondents took around was 40-50 minutes to give their response. Therefore, total 200 samples were collected from 3 selected Educational institutions of Kamrup(M), Assam.

**RESULTS****SECTION I****Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variables of Higher secondary Students.****n=200**

<b>Demographic Variables</b>	<b>Frequency (f)</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
<b>Age (in years)</b>		
16 – 17	44	22
17 – 18	130	65
18 – 19	24	12
More than 19	2	1
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	52	26
Female	148	74
<b>Stream</b>		
Science	124	62
Arts	49	24.5
Commerce	27	13.5
<b>Religion</b>		
Hindu	123	61.5
Islam	18	9
Christian	44	22
Others	15	7.5
<b>Any family members in nursing profession?</b>		
Yes	17	8.5
No	183	91.5
<b>If yes, specify the course of nursing</b>		
ANM	2	11.8
GNM	4	23.5
B.Sc. (N)	10	58.8
Ph.D (N)	1	5.9
<b>Source of information regarding nursing profession</b>		
Mass media (TV, Mobile, Newspaper)	78	39
School	41	20.5
Family members	41	20.5
Peer group	11	5.5
Others	29	14.5

The table 1 portrays that most of the Higher secondary Students, 130(65%) were aged between 17 – 18 years, 148(74%) were female, 124(62%) were studying science stream, 123(61.5%) were Hindus, 183(91.5%) had no family members in nursing profession, 10(58.8%) family members have undergone B.Sc. (N) course and 78(39%) received information regarding nursing profession through mass media(TV, Mobile, Newspaper).

## SECTION II

**Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of Higher secondary Students according to level of Knowledge regarding nursing profession**

**n=200**

<b>Level of Knowledge</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Inadequate Knowledge ( $\leq 33\%$ )	6	3
Moderate Knowledge (34 – 74%)	191	95.5
Adequate Knowledge ( $\geq 75\%$ )	3	1.5

The data represented in table 2 shows that out of 200 Higher secondary Students, majority 191(95.5%) has moderate knowledge, 6(3%) has inadequate knowledge and 3(1.5%) has adequate knowledge regarding Nursing Profession.

## SECTION III

**Table 3: Frequency and percentage distribution of Higher secondary Students according to level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession**

**n=200**

<b>Level of Attitude</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage (%)</b>
Undesirable Attitude ( $\leq 33\%$ )	-	-
Moderate Attitude (34 – 74%)	143	71.5
Desirable Attitude ( $\geq 75\%$ )	57	28.5

The data represented in Table 3 shows that out of 200 Higher secondary Students, 143(71.5%) has moderate attitude and 57(28.5%) has desirable attitude regarding Nursing Profession.

## SECTION IV

**Table 4: Correlation between Knowledge and Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students**

**H<sub>01</sub>:** There is no significant correlation between Knowledge and Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam.

**H<sub>1</sub>:** There is a significant correlation between Knowledge and Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students in selected Educational institutions of Kamrup (M), Assam.

**n=200**

<b>Variables</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>S. D</b>	<b>Karl Pearson's Correlation "r" and p- Value</b>
Knowledge	15.79	3.10	<b>r = 0.302</b> <b>p=0.0001, S***</b>
Attitude	56.00	5.68	

\*\*\*p<0.001, S – Significant

The table 4 shows that the mean score of Knowledge was  $15.79 \pm 3.10$  and the mean score of Attitude was  $56.0 \pm 5.68$ . The calculated Karl Pearson's Correlation value of  $r=0.302$  shows a fair positive correlation statistically significant at  $p<0.001$  level. This clearly infers that the when the Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among the Higher secondary Students increases or decreases then their Attitude towards it also increases or decreases.

## SECTION V

**Table 5: Association of Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with the selected demographic variables**

**H<sub>02</sub>:** There is no significant association between Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with selected demographic variables.

**H<sub>2</sub>:** There is a significant association between Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with selected demographic variables

**n = 200**

Demographic Variables	Inadequate Knowledge		Moderate Knowledge		Adequate Knowledge		Fisher Exact test p-value
	f	%	f	%	f	%	
<b>Age (in years)</b>							
16 – 17	1	0.5	43	21.5	-	-	p=0.876 (N.S)
17 – 18	4	2.0	123	61.5	3	1.5	
18 – 19	1	0.5	23	11.5	-	-	
More than 19	-	-	2	1.0	-	-	
<b>Gender</b>							p=0.710 (N.S)
Male	2	1.0	49	24.5	1	0.5	
Female	4	2.0	142	71.0	2	1.0	
<b>Stream</b>							
Science	4	2.0	119	59.5	1	0.5	p=0.541 (N.S)
Arts	1	0.5	46	23.0	2	1.0	
Commerce	1	0.5	26	13.0	-	-	
<b>Religion</b>							
Hindu	4	2	117	58.5	2	1.0	p=0.265 (N.S)
Islam	1	0.5	16	8	1	0.5	
Christian	-	-	44	22	-	-	
Others	1	0.5	14	7	-	-	
<b>Any family members in nursing profession?</b>							p=1.000 (N.S)
Yes	-	-	17	8.5	-	-	
No	6	3.0	174	87.0	3	1.5	
<b>If yes, specify the course of nursing</b>							
ANM	-	-	2	11.8	-	-	-
GNM	-	-	4	23.5	-	-	
B.Sc. (N)	-	-	10	58.8	-	-	
Ph.D (N)	-	-	1	5.9	-	-	
<b>Source of information regarding nursing profession.</b>							p=0.753 (N.S)
Mass media (TV, Mobile, Newspaper)	4	2	72	36	2	1	
School	1	0.5	40	20	-	-	
Family members	-	-	41	20.5	-	-	
Peer group	-	-	11	5.5	-	-	
Others	1	0.5	27	13.5	1	0.5	

N.S – Not Significant,  $p>0.05$

The table 5 shows that the level of Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with their selected demographic variables. It was observed that demographic variables did not show statistically significant association with level of Knowledge regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students at  $p<0.05$  level.

## SECTION VI

**Table 6: Association of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with the selected demographic variables**

**H<sub>03</sub>:** There is no significant association between Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with selected demographic variables.

**H<sub>3</sub>:** There is a significant association between Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with selected demographic variables.

$n = 200$

Demographic Variables	Moderate Attitude		Desirable Attitude		Chi-Square and Fisher Exact test p-value
	f	%	f	%	
<b>Age (in years)</b>					
16 – 17	32	16	12	6	p=0.957 (N.S)
17 – 18	91	45.5	39	19.5	
18 – 19	18	9	6	3	
More than 19	2	1	-	-	
<b>Gender</b>					p=0.594 (N.S)
Male	39	19.5	13	6.5	
Female	104	52	44	22	
<b>Stream</b>					
Science	86	43	38	19	$\chi^2=0.755$ d.f=2 p=0.686 (N.S)
Arts	37	18.5	12	6	
Commerce	20	10	7	3.5	
<b>Religion</b>					
Hindu	87	43.5	36	18	$\chi^2=7.714$ d.f=3 p=0.052 (N.S)
Islam	9	4.5	9	4.5	
Christian	37	18.5	7	3.5	
Others	10	5	5	2.5	
<b>Any family members in nursing profession?</b>					p=0.405 (N.S)
Yes	14	7	3	1.5	
No	129	64.5	54	27.0	
<b>If yes, specify the course of nursing</b>					
ANM	-	-	2	11.8	p=0.049 (S*)
GNM	4	23.5	-	-	
B.Sc. (N)	9	52.9	1	5.9	
Ph.D (N)	1	5.9	-	-	
<b>Source of information regarding nursing profession.</b>					$\chi^2=7.321$ d.f=4 p=0.120 (N.S)
Mass media (TV, Mobile, Newspaper)	50	25	28	14	
School	30	15	11	5.5	
Family members	34	17	7	3.5	

Demographic Variables	Moderate Attitude		Desirable Attitude		Chi-Square and Fisher Exact test p-value
	f	%	f	%	
Peer group	10	5	1	0.5	
Others	19	9.5	10	5	

N.S – Not Significant,  $p>0.05$

The table 6 shows that the level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students with their selected demographic variables. It was observed that the demographic variable family members who have undergone course of nursing ( $p=0.049$ ) had statistically significant association with level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students at  $p<0.05$  level and the other demographic variables did not show statistically significant association with level of Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Higher secondary Students at  $p<0.05$  level.

## CONCLUSION

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