

PERCEPTION OF PRECEPTOR AND STUDENT NURSE
PARTNERSHIP ON CLINICAL TEACHING AND LEARNING

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ABSTRACT

Preceptorship is a model of clinical training in which a qualified nurse, referred to as a preceptor, is assigned to one or a group of nursing students, for the purpose of facilitating learning in the clinical setting. Considerable emphasis placed on health care organizations towards supporting nursing students and newly appointed graduates entering the workforce. Despite the emphasis, little information is known about the perception of preceptors and student nurses partnership in real practice, especially in Kenya. The purpose of this study was to examine the perception of preceptors and student nurses partnership on clinical teaching and learning. This study used both qualitative and quantitative descriptive survey design. First, a pilot study was conducted at Nkubu Mission Hospital which the study instrument was tested for its validity and reliability. A sample size of one hundred respondents was randomly selected from a target population of 180 preceptees and by use of convenient sampling method, 10 preceptors were selected. One hundred and ten questionnaires were distributed out of which ninety nine were received back (ninety-one from preceptees and eight from preceptors). Descriptive statistics were used for data analysis. Study results showed that, both preceptors and student nurses had a higher perceptual demand for more preceptors to be employed by their training institutions in order to improve on the quality of clinical teaching and learning experiences. Preceptor and student nurses partnership yielded a positive experiential outcome for both. Preceptorship programme is not offered in Kenya to newly registered nurses. The term preceptors also was not commonly used in real practice rather, nursing training institutions were using clinical mentor or instructor interchangeably. It was, consequently, recommended that more nursing training institutions should adopt and implement preceptorship model in order to enhance the quality of clinical teaching and learning among preceptors and student nurses. More studies should be replicated on the same with larger sample size in a diverse population in order to be in a better position of evaluating the perception of preceptor-student nurses partnership while working within their roles.