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The relationship between work climate and nurse educators' use of information technology

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Understanding organizational behavior and the attitudes of individuals in organizations is crucial for policymakers and managers. Work climate is a major part of these constructs. The main goal of this study was to examine the perceptions of academic nurse educators about their work climate, concerning the use of information technology (IT), including examining a number of variables such as self-efficacy, innovativeness, attitudes, intention to use, and actual use of information technology.

Method: This study used a quantitative research design, using written and online surveys submitted to 109 academic nurse educators working at 10 different academic nursing schools in Israel.

Results: The relationship between work climate and actual use of IT was mediated by personality characteristics such as attitude toward using IT, self-efficacy, and innovativeness. Work climate positively predicted both self-efficacy and attitudes toward IT, but did not directly predict innovativeness and did not predict actual use.

Conclusion: Policymakers and managers should consider work climate and personality characteristics as important factors in their efforts to promote IT use in nursing. As a result, nurse educators would become better acquainted with new technologies, and their acceptance of IT would improve. The organization would benefit from a better work environment and from enhanced performance.

Biography

Ayala Gonen is working at Ruppin Academic Center, Israel, as Deputy Director of Nursing Department, and Senior Lecturer. Her dissertation was about registered nurses attitudes towards working with computers. She believes that the integration of information technology into education and the workplaces is expected to have influence on the experience and performance of learners. However, it depends on the technology acceptance of the end-user. Her main issues of research interest are: Nurses attitudes and intention to use information technology, influence of work climate, threat and challenge, curriculum change and more.

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