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Supplementary curriculum development to enhance nursing students' competencies to care for the elderly in the community based on contemplative education**Narumon Anekwit, Nisakorn Vibulchai, Patcharee Noomsang, Sakaorat Kaichan, Patcharee Wangwan and Chanissara Sanyabut**
Srimahasarakham Nursing College, Thailand

This research aimed to develop a supplementary curriculum based on contemplative education to enhance nursing students' competencies to care for the elderly living in their community. Four steps in the development of the supplementary curriculum were: (1) Situational analysis; (2) curriculum development, validation and pilot study; (3) implementation to determine the curriculum's effectiveness with 178 students at Srimahasarakham Nursing College using a one group, pretest-posttest design and (4) curriculum evaluation, improvement and confirmation. The research was carried out from December 2013 to April 2017. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, t-test and content analysis. The results revealed that five dimensions of elderly care in the community were identified as necessary competencies: Health promotion and prevention, chronic care in the elderly, community access, teamwork and health data management. Desirable student attributes were self-awareness, caring, public mindedness and critical thinking. The supplementary curriculum consisted of six elements: Principle and rationale, objectives, content, learning activities, instructional media and measurement and evaluation with 15 learning units and 45 total hours. The curriculum focused on authentic learning through deep listening, contemplation and meditation to enhance self-awareness based on contemplative education approach. The overall scores of nursing students' competencies and desirable attributes after implementing the curriculum were higher than at the baseline ($p < 0.05$). Nursing students had a high satisfaction level with the supplementary curriculum. The students, teachers and community members expressed that the curriculum enhanced the competencies of the students. After implementing the curriculum with the students enrolled in the later academic years, its result was effective in enhancing the nursing students' competencies.

sakaorat@smnc.ac.th

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