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Role playing versus conventional clinical education: The impact of the healthcare education and counseling by midwifery students about breast self-examination

Mahnaz Khatiban, Gita Sangestani and Khodayar Oshvandi
Hamadan University of Medical Sciences, Iran

Background: Iranian women have been shown to develop breast cancer 10 years earlier than those in the developed countries and their Attitude, knowledge and skills of breast self-examination are very poor. This study was conducted to determine the impacts of a role-playing strategy on midwifery students' training and counseling skills, and also on their clients' knowledge, skills, and health beliefs about breast self-examination.

Methods: This quasi-experimental study was conducted in two parts. Firstly, 32 students were equally allocated as the role-playing or conventional group. After intervention, the skills of the students in BSE education and counseling were evaluated. Secondly, through convenience sampling, 60 women divided in two groups were separately thought by the mentioned groups of the students. The women's BSE health beliefs, skills, and knowledge were compared before and after education to demonstrate the impact of the students' education and counseling skills. The data were analyzed on 5% error using software SPSS-16.

Results: The mean score of students' skills in the role-playing group was significantly higher than that of the conventional group. The women trained by the role-playing group of students had dramatically higher scores in health beliefs, skills and knowledge about BSE.

Conclusion: Using a role-playing strategy has positive impacts on the healthcare education and counseling by midwifery students. It is a useful alternative method to improve the healthcare education related to breast self exams in midwifery.

Biography

Dr. Mahnaz Khatiban has completed her B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. in Nursing from Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, the 2nd largest medical university in Iran. She is an Associate Prof. of the Mother & Child Care Research Center (MCCRC), head of the Dept. Of Medical-Surgical Nursing at the School of Nursing & Midwifery, and the Secretary of the Office of Talent Student and Medical Students' Olympiad at the Hamadan University of Medical Sciences. She has published more than 54 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of repute.

mahnaz.khatiban@gmail.com

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