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Attitudes toward climate change issues perceived by nursing students in Taiwan

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Climate changes have serious harms on global environment, and further influence human health. For instance, infectious diseases caused by heavy rain, and respiratory diseases caused by air pollution. Nurses have responsibility to take care of patients with these diseases. Nurses also have responsibility to educate individuals to promote their health. However, attitudes toward climate change issues affect how nurses treat the patients. Thus, the aim of this study is to explore the attitudes toward climate change issues perceived by nursing students in Taiwan. A descriptive research design was used, and 182 nursing students were participated in this study. Climate Change Adaptation Questionnaire was utilized to evaluate nursing students' attitude toward climate changes. There were 89.9% participants had heard about climate changes, global warming, and greenhouse effect, but only 80.2% participants knew Kyoto Protocol. Most participants understood climate change issues from television news (72.5%) and followed by textbooks (52.2%). 73.6% participant would not collect informations about climate changes automatically. Nevertheless, there were 62.1% participants had participated in environment related activities. These results revealed that althoug nursing students did not have strong motivation to explore climate change issues, they still had the basic knowledge of climate changes. In addition, most of them were willing to participate in activities related to climate changes. These findings could provide recommendations for nursing educators to develop climate change issues into nursing curriculum design.

Biography

YuChun Yao has completed her EdD at the age of 35 years from Spalding University (School of Education) and MSN from Spalding University (School of Nursing) in United States. She is the assistant professor of I-Shou University in Taiwan. She has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals and conferences. In addition, she has been serving as an editorial board member of several repute journals and conferences.

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