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The reality of psychiatric nursing research in Gaza

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Until 2009 it was noticeable that the <u>psychiatric nursing</u> research was weak and did not reach the required degree as most of the research was related to mental health and far from specialization in psychiatric nursing or the clinical side, before 2009, More than 80% of the employees had a diploma in nursing and this had a negative impact on the trend towards the development of psychiatric nursing research, In response, WHO and MOH in cooperation with the Islamic University in Gaza and An-Najah University in Nablus, opened the Master in Community Mental Health Nursing Program in 2009.

25 male and female nurses were selected at each university. The study began in 2009 and ended in 2012. This program is the first of its kind in Palestine specializing in mental health nursing. It is noteworthy that the participants in the program and since the first day of the study have moved to work in the psychiatric hospital and community mental health centers and they contribute to improving community mental health services in Palestine and fight the stigma of mental illness, The graduates of this program have assumed the presidency of important departments in the MOH such as the psychosocial support programs department and the scientific research in addition to the Department of mental health services development.

25 scientific studies have been prepared as a prerequisite for obtaining a Master's Degree in Community Mental Health Nursing at each university. Many of these researches have been published in international journals. Mental health has witnessed unprecedented activity in psychiatric nursing research. As a result, four mental health conferences were organized for the first time in the history of the MOH, At present, the field of psychiatric nursing research has become better and more widespread in Palestine, where psychiatric nursing staff is being prepared and participating in scientific conferences locally and internationally in addition to the establishment of case study conferences.

In contrast, many of the challenges facing psychiatric nursing research, including the ongoing emergency situation in the health sector prevent the prioritization of health research in Palestine and There is no support and funding for many research, especially experimental, which prevents researchers from conducting research, especially in light of the deteriorating economic conditions, Finally, we recommend that establishment of a higher scientific research body in Palestine, Create a free scientific journal to publish research, Provide financial and logistic support for the adoption of important research, and Establish a health research department in each health department to enhance the skills of researchers among staff.

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