Attitude towards Research among Undergraduate Nursing Students

Marian Tabi
Anunay Bhattacharya, Georgia Southern University

Available at: https://works.bepress.com/anunay_bhattacharya/2/
Attitude towards Research among Undergraduate Nursing Students.

Marian M. Tabi, PhD, MPH, CFCN, RN and Anunay Bhattacharya, MPHc, MBBS

1Department of Biostatistics, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health & Program Outcomes, School of Nursing; 2Associate Professor, Director Program Outcomes, School of Nursing; 3Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA.

Background: This study investigated undergraduate nursing students’ attitude towards research.

Methods: A 15 item pre and post-test questionnaire was administered to undergraduate nursing students to identify the factors that may have effect on their attitude towards research. Participation was involuntary and the study was approved by IRB. Statistical analysis was performed using paired sample t-test and IBM SPSS 23.0.

Results: Factors that affected students’ attitude towards research included ‘anticipatory anxiety taking a research course’ (p=0.005), ‘glad that research course was over’ (p=.009), and ‘research is a boring field’ (p=.040) were significant at the $\alpha = 0.05$. However, students recognized the usefulness of research to their professional career (p=0.004) and indicated the importance to attend their research classes (p=0.039).

Conclusions: With the drive to make a doctorate in nursing as the entry level into advance nursing practice, changing the mindset of undergraduate nursing students towards research is essential. Therefore, the selection of teaching methods and the development of content to promote student engagement can make a difference in students’ attitudes toward undergraduate research and optimize learning outcomes.

Keywords: Attitude, Undergraduate research, Nursing.