Short communication

Documentary study about
the teaching of nursing
informatics in two capital
cities in Brazil

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Oslo, August 30th, 2011.
Introduction

According to ANA, nursing informatics is “A specialty that integrates nursing science, computer and information to manage and communicate data, information and knowledge.”

In Brazil, the New Law of Guidelines and Basis for National Education and the National Curriculum Guidelines, DCNs (Brazil, 2001) propose the training of nurses with a broad knowledge base which is human oriented and critical. The nurse should also be able to work with the emerging technologies of the labor market.

2004- TIGER- Technology Informatics Guiding Education Reform

- Basic Computer Competencies
- Information Literacy
- Information Management

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Goal: Identify and analyze the curricula of the classes related to Nursing Informatics in undergraduate nursing courses of Higher Education Institutions in Brazil

Type of study: exploratory and descriptive
Place and Time: Brazil in 2010
Population: Institutions of higher education in Brazil
Out of the 28 schools surveyed, we found a score of only 3 schools which have classes related to nursing informatics. This represents 10.7% of the total number.

In the curriculum of the classes we found content related only to the basic principles of computer science and introduction to information systems.
We studied the relation between the curriculum of the schools and the skills included in the TIGER Guide.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILL/KNOWLEDGE</th>
<th>School A</th>
<th>School B</th>
<th>School C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Computer Skill</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>present</td>
<td>absent</td>
<td>absent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Management</td>
<td>absent</td>
<td>absent</td>
<td>absent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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So...

It is clear that Brazil is not preparing its nurses to deal with information technology.

We have translated the TIGER's guide for the three pillars of the competencies which are used in the undergraduate studies of nursing. This can be used for improvement of the Curricula. This will also be taken to the National Council of Nurses in Brazil.

In a global context, it is clearly necessary to look at other countries experiences and learn from them.
Thanks
References


 itu.int [webpage]. Genebra: WSIS Plan of Action [access in July 22th, 2010].


