

The Perspectives of Nursing Lecturers and Students Regarding Job Opportunities and Nursing Courses in Industry/Companies as Workers As Part Of Occupational Health And Safety : Qualitative Study

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Abstract

Background: Occupational Health Nurses (OHN) and Paramedics are part of the Occupational Health Safety workforce in companies. Currently, this is a trending issue in the world of nursing. In the past, this profession rarely received attention and many people did not know that nurses also had job opportunities in companies/industries.

Aim: To explore the innovation of nursing lecturers and students' interests in developing OHN science in their institutions and to open up the paradigm of nursing profession job opportunities.

Method: This study uses a qualitative research method with an exploratory phenomenological study, where in this study the opinions of 4 participants consisting of two nursing lecturers, one OHN practitioner, and 1 nursing student who has an interest in learning occupational health and safety are described. The questionnaire was given directly via WhatsApp Group in order to make time efficient and not interfere with the working hours of Practitioners and Lecturers.

Results: In this study, it was found that the participants had high hopes for the development of OHN science in Indonesia, as well as the formation of theoretical and applicable courses based on evidence-based practice because so far only through the Kemendikbud Teaching. Practitioner program have students received applicable OHN and Paramedic lectures, participants from academics and practitioners opined that Airlangga University (UNAIR) Surabaya and Banyuwangi became the initiators of the formation of OHN courses starting from the Vocational to Masters levels, considering the location is close to the East Java Industrial area.

Conclusion: It is hoped that there will be a follow-up to the development of OHN courses from the vocational to master's levels and the Practitioner Teaching sustainability program as a forum for collaboration between Practitioners and Academics to open the Paradigm of job opportunities for nursing students.

Keywords: Nursing Career Opportunities, Occupational Health and Safety Manpower, OHN Courses,

INTRODUCTION

Occupational Safety and Health (K3) is a related field with the health, safety and welfare of the people who work in an institution or at the location of a project. The purpose of implementation Occupational Safety and Health is to maintain health and work environment safety, as well as protecting co-workers, workers' families, consumers, and other people who may also influence environmental conditions work. Occupational Safety and Health (K3) is very important for morale, legality, and finance. All organizations have an obligation to ensure workers and other people involved remain inside safe conditions at all times.

Occupational health and safety is an important issue in the world of work today. The results of research conducted by the world body ILO state that every day the average is 6,000 people die, equivalent to one person every 15 seconds or 2.2 million people per year due to illness or work-related accidents (Rahayuningsih & Hariyono, 2011). In the US, Every year there are 5 thousand health workers infected with hepatitis B, 47 HIV positive and Every year 600 thousand - 1 million suffer injuries due to needle pricks (Kepmenkes RI, 2010, p.10). Meanwhile in Israel, the prevalence rate of back injuries is highest among nurses (16.8%) compared to other workers (Kepmenkes RI, 2007, p.4). In Indonesia itself, data from Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia (2015) total work accidents that occurred in Indonesia in 2014 there were 24,910 cases. Work accidents are one of the pressing problems in hospital environment. This happens because the hospital is a service unit health which provides services in all fields and types of diseases. Therefore Hospitals are required to be able to provide and implement an effort to ensure all resources Human resources in hospitals can be protected, both from disease and accidents due to work (Ivana, Widjasena & Jayanti, 2014).

Occupational Health Nursing is the application of concepts and frameworks from various scientific disciplines (nursing, medicine, public health, social and behavioral sciences, management principles) which aims to improve and maintain workers' health status and protect workers from work accidents and dangerous risk factors. in the workplace (health hazards) in the context of a healthy and safe work environment (American Association of Occupational Health Nursing/ AAOHN in Nies & Swansons, 2002; Stanhope & Lancaster, 2004). There are many disciplines and professions related to HSE, Occupational Health and Safety professionals that have been implemented by companies and industries in 49 countries, including: Occupational Health Doctors, Occupational Health Nurses, Occupational Hygiene Experts, Safety Engineers, Ergonomists/Physiotherapists, and Psychologists (International Department of Manpower, 2018) (Devanda, 2022).

Nurses play an important role in implementing comprehensive K3 in achieving optimal worker health status. Nurses in the industrial sector mostly play roles as clinicians, educators, managers/advisors, consultants and case managers (Strasser et al., 2009). Therefore, occupational health nurses need to develop new techniques in providing industrial health services to maintain and control the health and safety of workers.

The Ministry of Education and Culture's Teaching Practitioner Program is a very effective and efficient breakthrough where the campus and academic community collaborate with selected practitioners from the Ministry of Education and Culture to develop OHN knowledge. Practitioners and academics can work together to present OHN knowledge both in terms of theory and practice so that nursing students get a real picture. Apart from that, students can open up their paradigm that as nurses they don't only work in hospitals, clinics, laboratories and health centers. Objective: To explore the innovative interests of nursing lecturers and students in developing OHN knowledge in their institutions and opening up a paradigm of job opportunities for the nursing profession.

AIM

To explore the innovation of nursing lecturers and students' interests in developing OHN science in their institutions and to open up the paradigm of nursing profession job opportunities.

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative research method with an exploratory phenomenological study, where in this study the opinions of 4 participants consisting of two nursing lecturers, one OHN practitioner, and 1 nursing student who has an interest in learning occupational health and safety are described. The questionnaire was given directly via WhatsApp Group in order to make time efficient and not interfere with the working hours of Practitioners and Lecturers. July 29, 2024 Location via WhatsApp by distributing questionnaires directly and answered directly by several participants. The sample was selected by the first author. Participants consisted of lecturers and students.

RESULTS

Participant 1

Questionnaire and Answers:

1. Data on nurses who work in the company?
"The data I got shows that there are less than 10 people working in the company"
2. What are the job opportunities for nurses working in companies?
"Very large, because in every large company it is mandatory to have health workers to provide first aid if an accident occurs to an employee at work"
3. When studying, were you taught OHN material or were you a nurse working in a company?
"Yes, but only briefly and there is no further continuation from the lecturer who provides the material"
4. When you were a lecturer, did you teach K3 or OHN material?
"Yes, I teach and direct my students"
5. Then, in providing material, does your agency facilitate OSCE practicum/or laboratory practice?
"Nothing"
6. Do your nursing students practice clinically at a company or UD, UKK Post?
"it doesn't exist only in hospital and community practice areas"
7. What do you think as an educator about OHN or Corporate/Industrial Nursing courses?
"OHN or industrial health material is really needed because many large companies are looking for skilled workers to join them, but we still lack lecturers who really understand the flow and process for nurses to join the industry and the shortage of job opportunities at the hospital"
8. As an Educator Do you have a certification related to K3, why did you take this certification in the first place?
"I have, because I need a lot of knowledge and material to teach to my students on campus"
9. As a lecturer, how many of your students are interested in becoming K3 practitioners?
"80% of the total students are in nursing"
10. The final question is what are your hopes as an educator regarding the development of OHN courses that are in accordance with Evidence Base Practice, collaborating with K3 HR practitioners, and theories that are applicable in the field, please explain?
"There is training for lecturers, and lecturers in charge of courses must also be more active in seeking new knowledge updates about OHN/K3, they can also collaborate with relations and have more discussions related to cases in the field with practitioners to find out more about the opportunities that exist. can be taken by students later"

Participant 2

Questionnaire and Answers:

1. Data on nurses who work in the company?
"Word of mouth data from 3 students"
2. What are the job opportunities for nurses working in companies?
"Big. Because in Indonesia itself, as recorded by BPS, there are 144,354 companies and the number continues to increase every year by 9.85%. Therefore, judging from the data, it does not rule out the possibility that every company needs health workers such as nurses"
3. When studying, were you taught OHN material or were you a nurse working in a company?
"No OHN material yet, but the material was given by a nurse who works at the company"
4. When you were a lecturer, did you teach K3 or OHN material?
"Yes, I teach K3 Nursing and am the coordinator of the course"
5. Then, in providing material, does your agency facilitate OSCE practicum/or laboratory practice?
"No. Only providing simulations in the form of videos of work accidents occurring in the workplace"
6. Do your nursing students practice clinically at a company or UD, UKK Post?
"No. Because the vision and mission of the nursing study program does not lead to the corporate domain"
7. What do you think as an educator about OHN or Corporate/Industrial Nursing courses?
"Strongly agree. Because in general, OHN courses are needed by nurses so that they have an idea of nurses in a company"
8. As an Educator Do you have a certification related to K3, why did you take this certification in the first place?

“Own. Because when I first entered the world of health, I wanted to focus on K3 science and my background in college required me to take this certification”

9. As a lecturer, how many of your students are interested in becoming K3 practitioners?

“Own. Because when I first entered the world of health, I wanted to focus on K3 science and my background in college required me to take this certification”

10. The final question is what are your hopes as an educator regarding the development of OHN courses that are in accordance with Evidence Base Practice, collaborating with K3 HR practitioners, and theories that are applicable in the field, please explain?

“I have high hopes for the OHN course to be based on evidence-based practice. Because apart from updating knowledge, I think the OHN course is specifically for nurses who are hungry for knowledge about how to work as health workers in companies.”

IMPLICATION

The hope in this research is that the OHN course can have a wider reach, apart from being available in undergraduate courses, it can also penetrate master's to doctoral courses.

STRENGTH AND LIMITATIONS

This research collaborates directly with OHN so that accuracy regarding the development of OHN courses is guaranteed. There are no limitations because the majority of nursing students are enthusiastic about OHN courses or occupational safety and health in nursing

CONCLUSIONS

In this study, it is hoped that there will be a follow-up to the development of OHN courses from the vocational to master's levels and the Practitioner Teaching sustainability program as a forum for collaboration between Practitioners and Academics to open the Paradigm of job opportunities for nursing students.

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