

UNIQUE CHECKLIST FOR TRAINING NURSES

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Abstract. This article concerns apply a unique checklist for nursing training. The authors asked the learners to give their opinions regarding this checklist. Methods: This is a cross-sectional study of 100 Iraqi students from the Higher Institute of Nursing-Al-Anbar; who were (19-20) years old, from (1st July 2019 to 1st September 2019). All of the students were in class 1 and did not practice nursing before. The responses were collected from four nursing trainers about this checklist. The researchers applied a "three-point Likert scale" for satisfaction. Of the 100 enrolled nursing students, 56 were females (56 %) and 44 were males (44 %). Four trainers supervised their training and examination. Three of the trainers (75 %) were satisfied with this checklist as it is useful, logical, and applicable, and they recommended this checklist for training and examination. One trainer was neutral (25 %). This checklist is useful, logical, and applicable in nursing training.

Keywords: *checklist, requirement, training, Iraqi, nurses*

Introduction

Nursing denotes a healthcare profession that cares for individuals to promote health, alleviates suffering, and prevents illness. Nurses work in various settings, including hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, schools, and community health centers (Holopainen et al., 2019). Education in nursing is a critical component of developing competent and skilled nurses. Nursing education programs can be found at various degree levels. Traditional education programs and nursing skills can also take place through online programs, and continuing education courses. Nursing education programs seek to impart knowledge and skills necessary for the practice of nursing. These programs include both theoretical and practical components, with students learning about anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, patient care techniques, communication skills, and ethical considerations. Continuing education is also essential in nursing, as it keeps nurses up-to-date with the latest research and changes in healthcare practices (Barbosa et al., 2021). A checklist denotes a list of tasks to be run in a logical order. By using a checklist, individuals or teams can ensure that no critical steps are missed, and projects or processes are completed effectively and efficiently. Checklists can be used in various fields, such as healthcare, aviation, construction, manufacturing, and many others, helping to reduce errors and improve safety and quality (Haugen et al., 2019).

Nursing training refers to the education and training that a person undergoes to become a nurse. The training encompasses theoretical and practical tasks with the necessary skills and knowledge for safe patient care. Nursing training signifies the essential of a nurse's job, and it provides the knowledge and skills necessary for nurses to provide safe healthcare (Adam Searby et al., 2019). There are 229 papers concerning nurses on the "Iraqi Academic Scientific Journals" website. Furthermore, Iraq has more

than 20 higher institutes of nursing in Iraq, (morning and evening). Moreover, there are more than thirteen governmental nursing colleges and more than fifteen private colleges of nursing (morning and evening) in Iraq (Al-Khayyat, 2023). This is a research article concerning applying a unique checklist on the requirements of the students during their nursing training at the higher institute of Nursing in Al-Anbar. The authors asked the nursing learner who supervised those students to give their opinions regarding this checklist.

Materials and Methods

This is a retrospective study of 100 Iraqi students from the Higher Institute of Nursing-Al-Anbar who were randomly selected without names; and were (19-20) years old from (1st July 2019 to 1st September 2019). All of the students were in class 1 and did not practice nursing before. The responses were gathered from four nurse trainers supervising those nursing students about a unique checklist arranged by the authors. The researchers applied a “three-point Likert scale” for satisfaction from the checklist and then analyzed the data by Microsoft Excel 2010. Inclusion criteria: 100 Iraqi students from the Higher Institute of Nursing-Al-Anbar who were randomly selected without names; were (19-20) years old (1st July 2019 to 1st September 2019). All of the students were in class 1 and did not practice nursing before. Exclusion criteria are the Class 2 students. Limitation of the study are includes a small sample size including students from Al Anbar only. The ethical committee is vague names and oral consent.

Results and Discussion

Among the 100 enrolled nursing students, 56 were females (56 %) and 44 were males (44 %) (*Table 1* and *Figure 1*). Four trainers supervised their training and examination. Three of the trainers (75 %) were satisfied with this checklist as it is useful, logical, and applicable (*Table 2* and *Figure 2*), and they recommended this checklist for training and examination. One trainer was neutral (25 %). Nursing education is the process of equipping individuals with academic and practical skills to deliver healthcare services to patients worldwide. The training ranges from basic nursing qualifications to advanced nurse practitioners who offer diagnostic services and prescribe medications. Nursing education takes place in hospitals, universities, colleges, and online platforms to provide knowledge and practical skills to nurses. It combines theory and practical applications to equip students with the necessary skills to handle patients and healthcare systems across the globe. Nursing education requires that individuals acquire clinical hours, which involves hands-on interaction with patients in a supervised setting, which teaches competencies like communication, patient assessment and care, and specific technical skills. Continuing education is also crucial for nurses as they have to stay up-to-date with rapidly changing medical technology, procedures, and treatments, as well as regulatory changes as applicable to their work. So, the authors chose this research article concerning applying a unique checklist on the requirements of the students during their nursing training at the Higher Institute of Nursing in Al-Anbar. The authors asked the trainers who supervised those students to give their opinions regarding this checklist.

Table 1. *The distribution of the enrolled students according to their gender (N=100).*

Category: Students	Frequency [N] (Percentage, %)
Male	44 (44)
Female	56 (56)
Total	100 (100)

Table 2. The distribution of the nursing trainers who supervised those students according to their satisfaction (N=4).

Category	Frequency [N] (Percentage, %)		
	Satisfied	Neutral	Not satisfied
Is this checklist useful?	3 (75)	1 (25)	0 (0)
Is this checklist logical?	3 (75)	1 (25)	0 (0)
Is this checklist applicable?	3 (75)	1 (25)	0 (0)

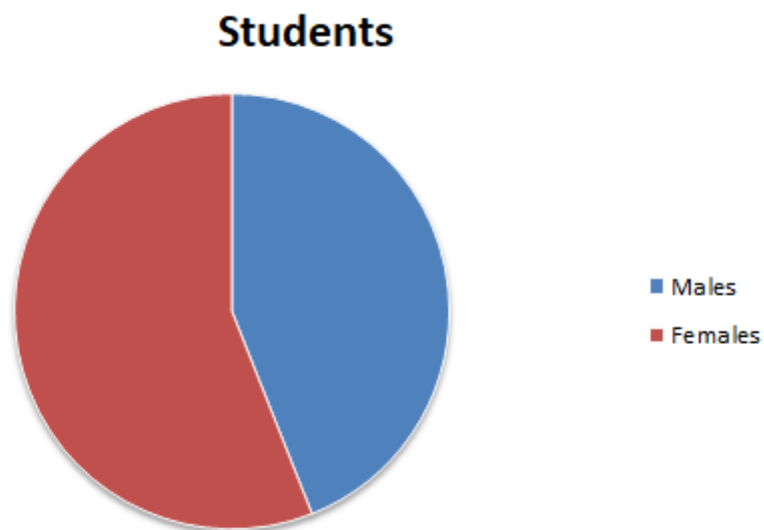


Figure 1. The distribution of the enrolled students according to their gender (N=100).

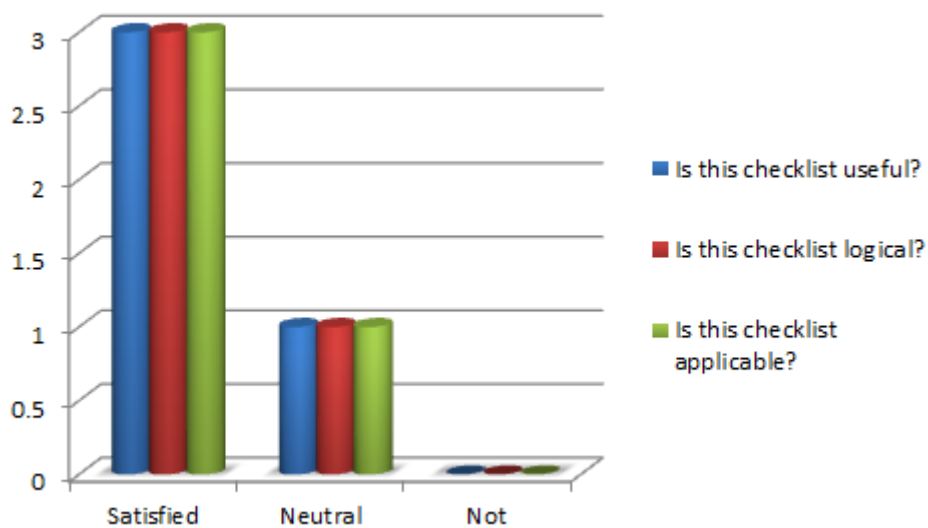


Figure 2. The distribution of the nursing trainers who supervised those students according to their satisfaction (N=4).

In this research, the authors chose 100 Iraqi nursing students from the higher Institute of Nursing in Al-Anbar health directorate, who were randomly selected without names; were (19-20) years old (1st July 2019 to 1st September 2019). All of the students were in class 1 and did not practice nursing before. The responses were collected from four trainers supervising those nursing students about a unique checklist arranged by the authors. This unique checklist contains the basic nursing skills like taking vital signs, emergency nursing procedures like nasogastric tubing, oxygen supply, administration of drugs, cannula insertion, blood transfusion, physical examination, perioperative nursing care, differences in the I.V. fluid types, Urinary catheter insertion, Nursing documentation, gloving and dressing, wound care, Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, Management of choking, Communication Skills, Suturing Techniques, Injections, doing ECG, ABC for Emergencies, Fracture first aid, management of bed ulcers, and Surgical Scrubbing. The scores depend on how the student practices the skill. One or more of the nursing trainers will give the scores then the trainer will give the score and sign the checklist. The institute utilized this checklist in 2019 but stopped it in 2020 due to the Covid-19 outbreak. Although it is a small sample to study, it was not easy to generalize this checklist, but this checklist provides a base for the nursing student and the nursing trainer for the required skills. Also, it gives excellent knowledge about the main nursing skills in every health institute which is parallel with many Iraqi academic studies (Al-Janabi, 2023; Sharifi et al., 2019).

In *Table 1* and *Figure 1*, the reader might notice that there were 100 of the enrolled students, 56 were females (56 %) and 44 were males (44 %). Although the number of males is fewer than females, the number of females attending the institute is higher because the females and their families prefer nursing institutes. This indicates that Iraqi females give their girls their own way in this humanitarian work. This finding went with the published studies worldwide (Ion et al., 2021). In *Table 2* and *Figure 2*, the nursing trainers were four who supervised the 100 nursing students, in which they arranged students into subgroups. Each group contains ten students for best nursing practice and active participation, which is relatively good compared to nursing schools with large numbers of students. The nursing skills included Communication skills as Nurses must effectively communicate with people at different levels. Also, Clinical skills such as assessing patients, monitoring vital signs, administering medications, wound care, and performing various procedures. Moreover, Critical thinking skills nurses must be able to analyze patient data and make wise decisions. Technical skills in which Knowledge of medical software, recording patient data in electronic medical records (EMRs), and using medical equipment such as infusion pumps and ventilators. Emotional intelligence (EQ) by which nurses must be able to empathize with patients, build trusting relationships, and respond to emotional and psychological stresses. Time-management skills as Nurses must be able to prioritize tasks and manage their time efficiently to ensure that patient needs are met. Leadership skills as Nurses sometimes lead teams of healthcare professionals and must have the ability to manage conflicts, delegate tasks, and ensure patient safety. Nurses must have an appreciation of cultural beliefs to enhance healthcare (Egerod et al., 2021).

The authors asked the nursing teachers (trainers) about the designed checklist and used the three-point Likert scale A three-point Likert scale is a rating scale commonly used in surveys and questionnaires to measure respondents' replies with a statement. It consists of three response options, typically "agree", "neutral", and "disagree". Participants are asked to indicate which option best represents their perspective on the

statement being made. The three-point Likert scale is useful in situations where a more nuanced response scale is not required, or where the survey or questionnaire is designed to collect quick and simple responses. However, this type of scale may not capture the full range of opinions or attitudes expressed by respondents. Three out of four (75 %) answered clearly as “Satisfied” for the questions “Is this checklist useful?”, “Is this checklist logical?”, and “Is this checklist applicable?” indicate that they understood the importance of this checklist to plan nursing training as it is right in an objective manner without bias. While the fourth trainer did not “Satisfied”, he was “neutral”, because he thought that this checklist was “over”. Three of four trainers thought that this checklist was comprehensive (Sowko et al., 2019). From *Table 3* and *Figure 3*, again the reader could see that three out of four Agreed to the questions “Did you recommend this checklist in the training of nursing students?” and the question “Did you recommend this checklist in the examination of nursing students?” which indicates that they satisfied from this checklist in their training or assessments. Iraq took many firm actions to advance the health system as compared to the developed nations (Alhiti, 2022; 2021a). Although the fourth trainer did not agree with this checklist he was “neutral” as he thought it was too long and over in their nursing requirements. This result indicates that this checklist covered all the aspects of nursing processes, despite it needs time to be familiarized with nursing education. Every health system intended to organize the healthcare data of the citizens so that the healthcare leaders arrange the materials and personnel as required (Alhiti, 2021b).

Table 3. The distribution of the nursing trainers according to their recommendation of the checklist (N=4).

Category	Frequency [N] (Percentage, %)		
	Yes	Neutral	Not
Did you recommend this checklist in the training of nursing students?	3 (75)	1 (25)	0 (0)
Did you recommend this checklist in the examination of nursing students?	3 (75)	1 (25)	0 (0)

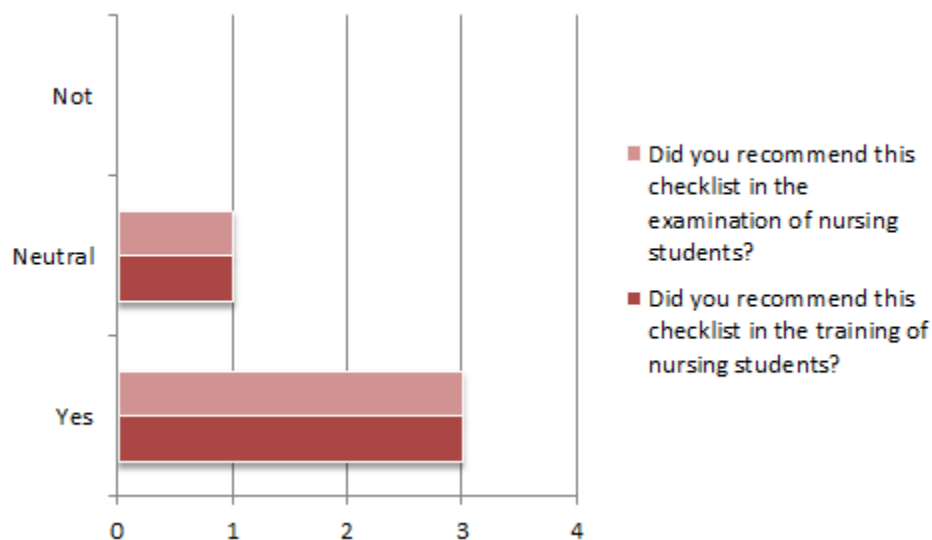


Figure 3. The distribution of the nursing trainers according to their recommendation of the checklist (N=4).

Conclusion

This checklist is useful, logical, and applicable in nursing training and assessment. The researchers recommended this checklist be reviewed by the nursing leaders for use in nursing training and assessment.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

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