

## Study of Impact of Internet among Nursing Students

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** One of the most important features of modern society is the growing impact of online communication tools, especially internet on people.

#### Objectives

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students.
- To find the association between knowledge scores regarding impact of internet among nursing students with their selected personal variables.

**Methods:** Formal administrative permission was obtained from institution prior to data collection. Informed consent was obtained from the samples. 60 samples were selected by using non-probability convenience sampling technique. Data was collected by administering personal pro forma and structured knowledge questionnaire regarding impact of internet use. Students took 30 min. to fill the questions. Data collection process was terminated by thanking the samples. **Results:** Present study revealed knowledge scores of impact of internet among nursing students. 1(1.66%) had poor knowledge, 25(41.66%) had average knowledge and 34(56.66%) had good knowledge among nursing students. Mean knowledge score of impact of internet among nursing students was 19.36 with standard deviation of  $\pm 3.8$ . There was no association found between knowledge of impact of internet among nursing students with their selected personal variables. **Conclusion:** Study concludes that majority of the students have knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students.

**Keyword:** impact, internet use, nursing students

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### INTRODUCTION

There has been an unpredictable growth in the use of internet, not only in India but also universally in the last decade [1]. There were about 42 million active internet users in urban India in 2008 as related to 5 million in 2000. The internet is used by some to facilitate research, to seek information, for interpersonal communication and for business transactions. Alternatively, it can be used by some to pamper in pornography, excessive gaming, chatting for long hours and even gambling. There have been growing concerns international for what has been labeled as "internet addiction". The term "internet addiction" was

proposed by Dr. Ivan Goldberg in 1995 for pathological compulsive internet use [2].

#### Need for the Study

Surveys in the United States and Europe have indicated that prevalence rates of internet addiction are as high as 8.2% in the general population. It could be as high as 18.5% in some regions [3]. In the 13–17 age demographic, up to 3 out of every 4 kids could be believed as addicted to the internet. The percentage of 18–24 year olds who would qualify as being addicted to the internet today is 71%. People who are in the 65+ age demographic are more likely to be addicted to the internet (44%) than the 55–64 age demographic (39%)

and the 45–54 age demographic (40%). Starting at the age of 25, internet addiction rates grow progressively less pending people reach the age of 65 when usage rates begin to spike again. Half of the 35–44 age demographic may qualify as being addicted to the internet [4].

### Statement of the Problem

A study to assess the level of knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students in selected nursing colleges at Mysore.

### Objectives of the Study

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students.
- To find the association between knowledge scores regarding impact of internet among nursing students with their selected personal variables.

### Hypothesis

- H1: There will be a significant association between knowledge scores regarding impact of internet among nursing students with their selected personal variables.

**Assumption:** Nursing students may have some knowledge regarding the impact of internet.

## METHODOLOGY

### Research Approach and Design:

Descriptive research design.

**Variables of the Study:** knowledge regarding impact of internet.

**Setting:** Vikram College of Nursing, Mysore.

**Population:** B.Sc. (N) students.

**Sample and Sample Size:** 60 students of 3rd year B.Sc. (N).

**Sampling Technique:** Non-probability convenience sampling technique.

### Criteria for Sampling

#### Inclusion Criteria

Nursing students who are

- Available on the date of data collection.
- Willing to participate.

### Instrument Used for Data Collection

**Section 1:** Personal pro forma to assess the personal variables such as age, sex, type of family and family income.

**Section 2:** Structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the level of knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students which include importance of internet, impact of internet (psychological, physical and social).

### Scoring

Poor knowledge: 0–10

Average knowledge: 11–20

Good knowledge: 21–30

### Data Collection Procedure

Formal administrative permission was obtained from institution prior to data collection. Informed consent was obtained from the samples. 60 samples were selected by using non-probability convenience sampling technique. Data was collected by administering personal pro forma and structured knowledge questionnaire regarding impact of internet. Students took 30 min. to fill the questions. Data collection process was terminated by thanking the samples.

Knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students revealed that 34 students had good knowledge (56.6%), 25 students had average knowledge (41.6%) and 1 student had poor knowledge (1.6%) as depicted in table 1 and table 2 (a).

## RESULTS

Mean knowledge score of impact of internet among nursing students was 19.36 with standard deviation of  $\pm 3.8$  as given in table 2(b).

**Table 1:** Frequency and percentage distribution to assess the sample characteristics (n=60).

S. No.	Personal Variables	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1	Age		
	18-21 years	55	91.6
	Above 22 years	6	8.4
2	Sex		
	Male	6	10
	Female	54	90
3	Type of family		
	Nuclear	53	88.3
	Joint	7	11.7
4	Family income (Rs)		
	Less than 5000	55	91.6
	More than 5000	5	8.4

**Table 2 (a):** Frequency and percentage distribution of knowledge scores of students regarding impact of internet (n=60).

Level of Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Poor	1	1.66
Average	25	41.66
Good	34	56.66

**Table 2 (b):** Mean, median and standard deviation scores of knowledge scores of students regarding impact of internet (n=60).

Group	Mean	Median	Standard Deviation
Nursing students	19.36	19.8	±3.8

**Association between knowledge scores of impact of internet among nursing students with their selected personal variables.**

There was no significant association between knowledge scores of impact of

internet among nursing students with their selected personal variables.

**CONCLUSION**

The present study revealed knowledge scores of impact of internet among nursing students. 1 student had poor knowledge (1.66%), 25 students had average knowledge (41.66%) and 34 students had good knowledge (56.66%) among nursing students.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Similar study can be conducted by using true experimental approach.
- A study can be conducted to assess the effectiveness of structured teaching program on knowledge regarding impact of internet among nursing students.
- Study can be done to compare the knowledge of students regarding impact of internet among nursing students among private and government nursing colleges.

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