

## The Influence of Job Satisfaction, Workplace Learning on Nursing Performance among Clinical Nurses

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### Abstract

*This study was conducted as a descriptive research study to confirm nurses' workplace learning, job satisfaction, and nursing work performance. The data collection period was October 2016, and 155 questionnaires were analyzed. Nurses' workplace learning averaged 3.97 points on a 6-point scale, job satisfaction was 2.99 on a 5-point scale, and nursing performance was 3.70 on a 5-point scale. There was a significant difference in job satisfaction according to the working department and work type, as well as a significant difference according to education level, marital status, department, and kind of work. The results of this study are essential in confirming the factors that influence workplace learning in the nursing field.*

**Keywords:** *Workplace, Learning, Job, Satisfaction, Nursing, Performance*

### 1. Introduction

A human being and an organization grow through learning. Learning in the organization is the origin of knowledge creation and is a primary means of securing the organization's competitive power [1]. Most organizations offer educational training to organizational members, thereby promoting the improvement in individual capability. An individual's enhanced capacity is expected to lead likely to organizational performance. For this, the focus is being put on developing the environment in which organizational members can continuously learn. This is because of the belief that more occurrence in learning leads to improving the ability of an individual and an organization to cope flexibly with an environmental change [2].

As a hospital is a place that integrates a variety of advanced medical technologies and medical equipment as well as a workforce such as a nurse, a doctor, and a medical technician, the recent medical environment is rapidly changing owing to a change in internal and external conditions. Also, even consumers' needs are being advanced and diversified. Thus, to counteract this environmental change flexibly and effectively, attention is being increased to developing a nurse's competence and nursing performance in the hospital [3].

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Beyond the limit of a place, a work site is a place for work-related learning, learning through work, and work-based learning through utilizing work as a topic, an objective, a method, and a teaching material [4].

Workplace learning implies the learning at work that takes place in a work site; it is the process of acquiring the capability necessary for job performance through the learning experience that an individual belonging to an organization obtains amidst interaction with many people in the workplace environment and organization [5]. Scholars contended variously with this type of workplace learning. However, workplace learning is divided into formal, informal, and incidental learning [5]. Formal learning is planned and specific and is made to guide a method of performing a particular job. Informal learning happens through a demonstrative presentation when the learning process is not fixed in advance. An unintended by-product creates incidental learning according to any activity like interpersonal interaction or trial and error [5][6].

Job satisfaction implies a satisfaction level of being felt according to a desire or a value of being possessed by an individual, namely, the delightfulness or good emotional state that an individual comes to obtain through evaluating a job [7], and was defined as a pleasant and positive emotional state that each individual of the members feel through job [8]. In addition, job satisfaction is 'what is an emotional state related to the job. This is what is individually varied depending on a level in an individual's attitude, value, faith, and desire.' It was reported that the affirmative emotion of task life has an effect on organization operation and job satisfaction, thereby leading to a high desire to work given a high job life, and that the organizational goal and performance may be raised by continuing an effort for self-development, but that the low job satisfaction leads inversely to difficulty for nursing in good quality, thereby receiving a negative impact even in the aspect of people's health management [9].

Performance is a concept used most frequently in the organization, and that can be interpreted diversely [10]. Work performance implies carrying out the number of work responsibilities [11]. Hence, nursing performance can be defined as the level of fulfillment of nursing tasks, available for grasping ability to be possessed by a nurse, and can confirm whether a subject was offered appropriate nursing, thereby being able to evaluate the nursing quality depending on nursing performance level [8][10]. Successful nursing performance includes human relation skills available for providing safe and effective care to a patient as well as nursing knowledge, clinical judgment ability, and capacity to cope with a stressful situation [10], and is highly relevant to job satisfaction [12]. A factor affecting nursing performance was identified to be involved academic background [13][14], outpatient-clinic work [13], age [14], clinical career [12][13], professional autonomy [15], empowerment [8][12][15], job satisfaction [13], and the completion of professional curriculum [15].

Accordingly, this study aims to offer grounds for developing a nurse's capacity and enhancing nursing performance through grasping job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing performance in nurses who work at the general hospital, through confirming a correlation among job satisfaction & workplace learning and nursing performance, and through identifying a factor that job satisfaction and workplace learning have an impact on nursing performance.

## **2. Study design**

### **2.1. Study design**

This study confirms nurses' job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing work performance. It is also a descriptive research study to identify the relationship between job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing performance and to identify factors that affect nursing performance.

### **2.2. Research subjects**

The G \* power statistical program was used to estimate the subjects. The minimum sample size was 136, based on eight independent variables, including multiple regression analysis, an intermediate effect size of .15, a significance level of .05, a power of 90%, general characteristics, workplace learning, and job satisfaction. In consideration of the dropout rate of 20%, 165 questionnaires were recorded to nurses working at general hospitals in C city. Of the questionnaires provided, 158 were collected (95.8% recovery rate), and 155 were analyzed except for the three poorly answered questionnaires.

### **2.3. Data collection methods and ethical consideration**

The data collection period was from October 1, 2016, to October 30, 2016. Before this study was conducted, all researchers completed lectures on research ethics, and the research was reviewed by the Institutional Ethics Review Committee (Approval No. 2016-0002). The data collection was conducted by the researcher, who received approval for the questionnaire from the director, visited the nursing department directly, explained the purpose and contents of the study, and distributed the structured questionnaires to the nurses who agreed to participate in the research.

### **2.4. Data statistics**

The statistical analysis of this study was analyzed using the SPSS/Win 20.0 program. The subjects' general characteristics were frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation, and the difference between workplace learning, job satisfaction, and nursing work performance according to the general characteristics of the nurses was tested by t-test, ANOVA, and Scheffè test. Pearson's correlation coefficients were calculated to identify correlations among workplace learning, job satisfaction, and nursing work performance variables. The factors affecting nursing performance were analyzed by Stepwise multiple linear regression.

## **3. Research results**

### **3.1. Job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing work performance of the subjects**

Regarding job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing performance, Job satisfaction was 2.99 on the 5-point scale. In the sub-domain, the maintenance area is 2.59, the autonomy is 2.94, the professional level is 3.22, the work requirement is 2.87, the interaction area is 3.52, and the doctor-nurse relationship area is 2.86. The administrative area was 2.90 points, the interaction area was the highest, and the job satisfaction of the pay area was the lowest.

Workplace learning was 3.97 points on an average of 6 points, regarding sub-areas, 3.80 points for formal learning, 4.02 points for informal learning, and 4.08 points for incidental learning. The results of the nursing work were 3.70 points on a 5-point scale. The results of the nursing work were 3.70 points on a 5-point scale. Regarding nursing performance, 3.81 points for nursing work performance, 3.73 points for nursing work attitude, 3.60 points for nursing work level improvement, 3.68 points for nursing work performance, and the lowest level of nursing work performance [Table 1].

Table 1. The degrees of job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing performance

Variables	Subcategories	Mean	±SD
Job satisfaction	total (5 points)	2.99	±0.43
	salary	2.59	±0.64
	Autonomy	2.94	±0.51
	Professional level	3.22	±0.46
	Business requirement	2.87	±0.52
	Interaction	3.52	±0.63
	Doctor-Nurse Relationship	2.86	±0.95
	administration	2.90	±0.47
Workplace learning	total (6 points)	3.97	±0.80
	Formal learning	3.80	±0.91
	Non-formal learning	4.02	±0.83
	Incidental learning	4.08	±0.79
Nursing performance	total (5 points)	3.70	±0.48
	Competency	3.81	±0.55
	Attitude	3.73	±0.50
	Willingness to improve	3.60	±0.56
	Application of nursing process	3.68	±0.61

(N=155)

### 3.2. Job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing work performance according to general characteristics of the subject

The results of this study are as follows. First, job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing work performance differed significantly according to the department, position, and work type. There were significant differences according to education level, marital status, department of work, and type of work, and there was no significant difference according to general characteristics of workplace learning [Table 2].

## 4. Conclusion

The purpose of this study is to investigate factors that can improve the performance of nursing work in the future. The average job score of the general hospital nurse was 3.97 points for 6 points. The job satisfaction was 2.99 for 5 points and 3.70 points for 5 points. As for the sub-domain, the formal learning of the workplace learning was 3.80 points, the informal learning was 4.02 points, the accidental learning was 4.08 points, and the score of accidental learning was the highest.

Table 2. Differences in job satisfaction, workplace learning, and nursing performance according to general characteristics of subjects

Characteristics	Categories	Job satisfaction				Workplace learning				Nursing performance					
		M	±SD	t or F	p	M	±SD	t or F	p	M	±SD	t or F	p		
Education level	Associate degree	3.00	±0.37		0.56	.571	3.85	±0.72	0.55	.578	3.59	±0.37	a	3.34	.038
	Bachelor degree	2.96	±0.42				3.98	±0.80			3.68	±0.50	a	(a<b)	
	≥Master degree	3.05	±0.50				4.05	±0.87			3.90	±0.49	b		
Marital status	Single	2.95	±0.42		-1.41	.162	3.92	±0.78	-0.97	.334	3.59	±0.45		-3.71	<.001
	Married	3.04	±0.43				4.04	±0.81			3.87	±0.48			
Religion	None	3.03	±0.41		2.16	.077	4.03	±0.77	0.56	.691	3.75	±0.45		1.41	.234
	Buddhism	3.27	±0.16				4.13	±0.22			3.43	±0.36			
	Protestant	2.91	±0.44				3.80	±0.80			3.53	±0.58			
	Catholic	2.90	±0.48				3.89	±0.97			3.72	±0.53			
	Etc.	2.54	±0.24				3.81	±0.14			3.83	±0.17			
Working department	General ward	2.93	±0.42	a	3.45	.010	3.99	±0.84	1.43	.228	3.66	±0.55	ab	2.67	.035
	Intensive care unit	2.91	±0.32	a	(a<b)		3.80	±0.70			3.59	±0.41	a	(a<b)	
	Operation room	3.08	±0.30	ab			3.73	±0.75			3.85	±0.34	ab		
	Emergency room	3.30	±0.55	b			4.27	±0.59			3.85	±0.36	ab		
	Etc.	3.06	±0.46	ab			4.10	±0.97			3.97	±0.39	b		
Position	Staff Nurse	2.96	±0.03	a	5.69	.004	3.94	±0.80	1.76	.176	3.68	±0.48		2.75	.067
	Charge nurse	3.23	±0.15	a	(a<b)		4.29	±0.54			3.99	±0.35			
	Head nurse & over	3.81	±0.19	b			4.76	±0.88			4.22	±0.31			
Type of duty	Fixed duty	3.41	±0.45	a	4.52	.012	4.50	±1.21	2.40	.094	4.22	±0.36	a	5.81	.004
	Shift duty	2.96	±0.42	b	(a>b)		3.96	±0.77			3.66	±0.49	b	(a>b)	
	Etc.	3.03	±0.34	b			3.76	±0.66			3.80	±0.30	b		

(N=155)

There was no difference in the general characteristics of workplace learning and a statistically significant difference in job satisfaction according to working department and working style. Nursing performance was significantly different according to education level, marital status, department of work, and type of work. The correlation between the nursing performance and the main variables of the general hospital nurses showed that the higher the age, the higher the work experience, the higher the workplace learning level, the higher the job satisfaction, the higher the performance of the nursing work. The results of this study indicate that the factors affecting nursing work performance are essential in confirming the workplace learning that was lacking in the existing research.

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