



Challenges and Strategies of Nursing Education and Nursing Practice - Perspectives of Final Year Nursing Students, Registered Nurses and Nurse Educators in Guyana and in India, 2016



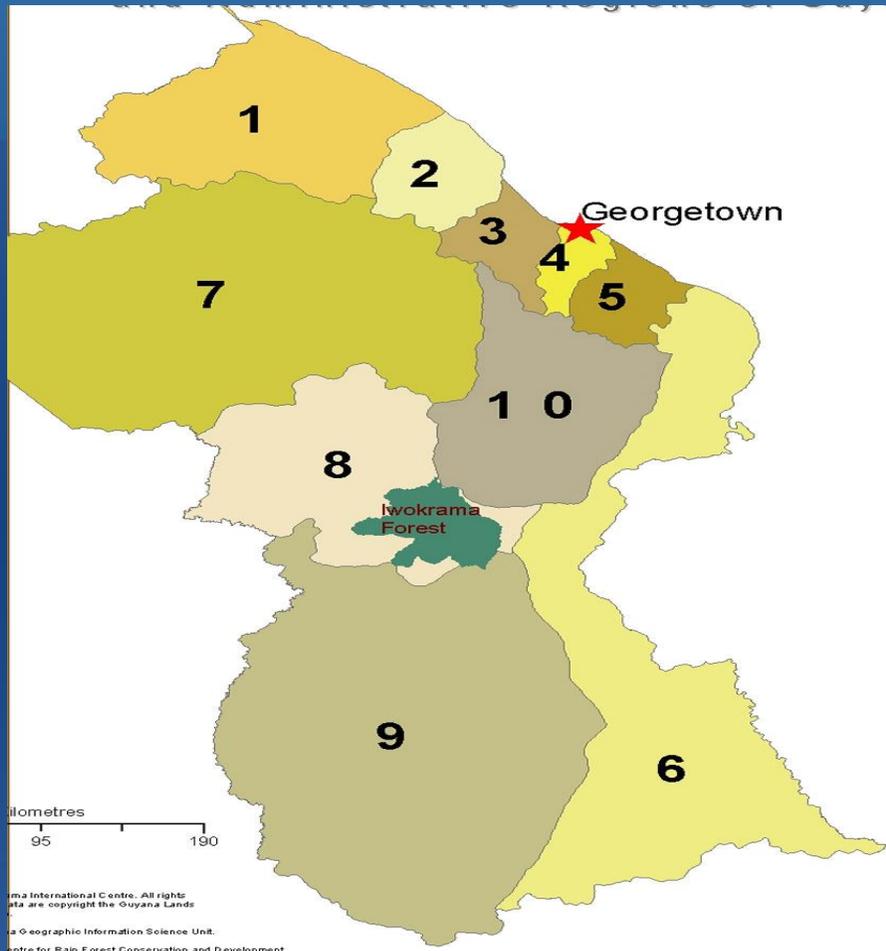
Acknowledgement

- AGNAP (Association of Guyanese Nurses and Allied Professionals), UK
- Nurse Educators in Guyana and India





Guyana, South America



- Population – 760,000
- 10 Administrative regions
- 4 Professional Nursing training schools
- 1 Post RN Bachelor of science degree program at the University of Guyana



Introduction/Justification

Nursing is a dynamic and practice discipline.

Some of the emerging factors that are significantly influencing the profession:

- ✓ Globalization
- ✓ Technology explosion
- ✓ Changing economy and advancements in health care modalities
- ✓ Growing population of elderly
- ✓ Increased burden of chronic diseases
- ✓ Paradigm shift in teaching and learning



Purpose of the study

- The purpose of this study is to explore the perceptions of final year BSc nursing and professional students, registered nurses and nurse educators regarding the challenges and the strategies of nursing education and nursing practice in Guyana and in India.



Research Questions

1. What are the perceptions of final year BSc nursing/ professional nursing students, registered nurses and nurse educators regarding the challenges of nursing education and nursing practice in the 21st century?
2. What are the perceptions of final year BSc nursing/professional nursing students, registered nurses and nurse educators regarding the strategies to reform or reinvent nursing education in the 21st century?



Methodology

Quantitative study

The total number of participants - 299
✓ Guyana - 231
✓ India - 68

Qualitative study

The study used 15 participants
✓ Guyana – 8
✓ India - 7



Sampling technique/ Data collection

- A purposive and convenient sampling technique
- Questionnaire was structured and pretested
- Classrooms, hospital settings and through a professional online survey software tool, Survey Gizmo (<https://www.surveygizmo.com/>)
- The components of survey tool were:
 - Demographic information
 - Nurses' perceptions regarding trends in nursing
 - Challenges
 - Recommendations
 - and Comments



Data collection for the Interviews

Guyana

Work place interviews:

Georgetown	– Two
Linden	– One
Berbice	– One
University of Guyana	- Two

India

Interviews were done online through skype:

Andhra Pradesh	– One
Karnataka	– Three
West Bengal	- One



Data Analysis

Quantitative study:
The data was analyzed
using the descriptive
analysis

Qualitative study:
Data was analyzed using
computer software program
known as, R Computer
Qualitative Data Analysis
(RQDA) and themes were
developed



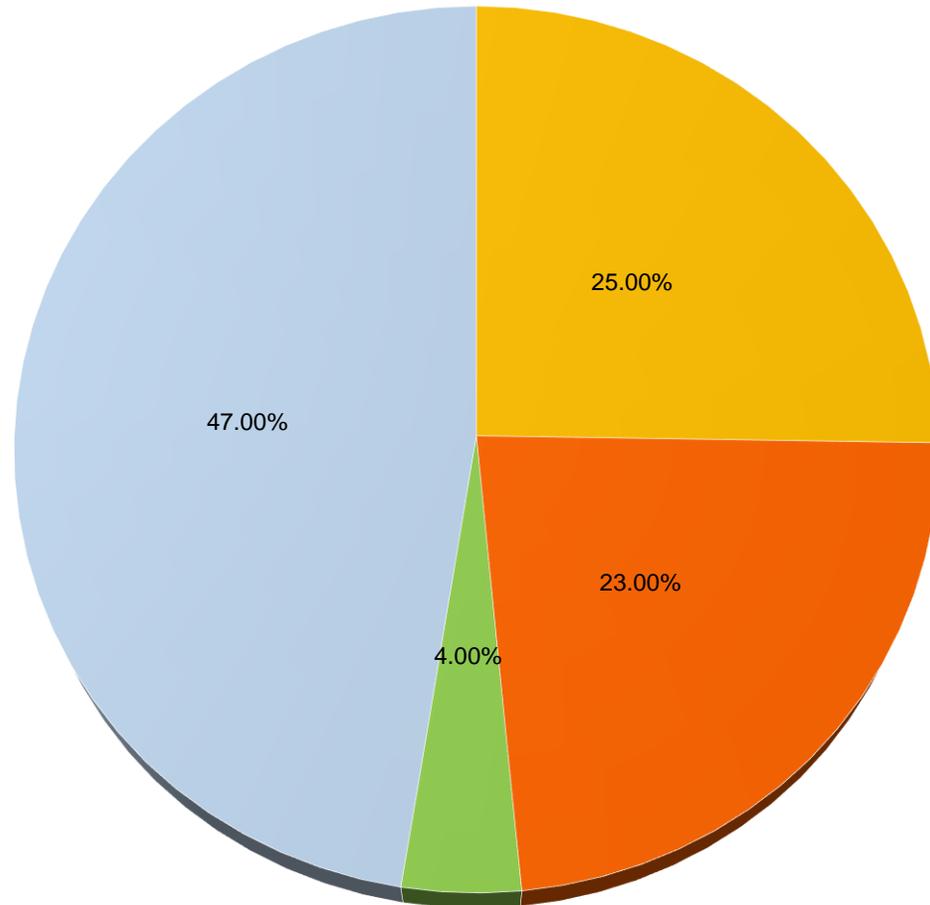
Findings of the study

- Age. The age ranged from 18 to 60 years of age.
- Gender. There were 271 female nurses and 28 male nurses that took part in this study.
- Nationality. Among the participants, there were 231 nurses from Guyana and 68 nurses from India.



Educational Status

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND



- General Nurse and Midwifery Programme
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing
- Master's Degree in Nursing/Nurse Pract
- I'm still a final year student of BSN/



Figure 1: Top 5 Challenges of Nursing Education

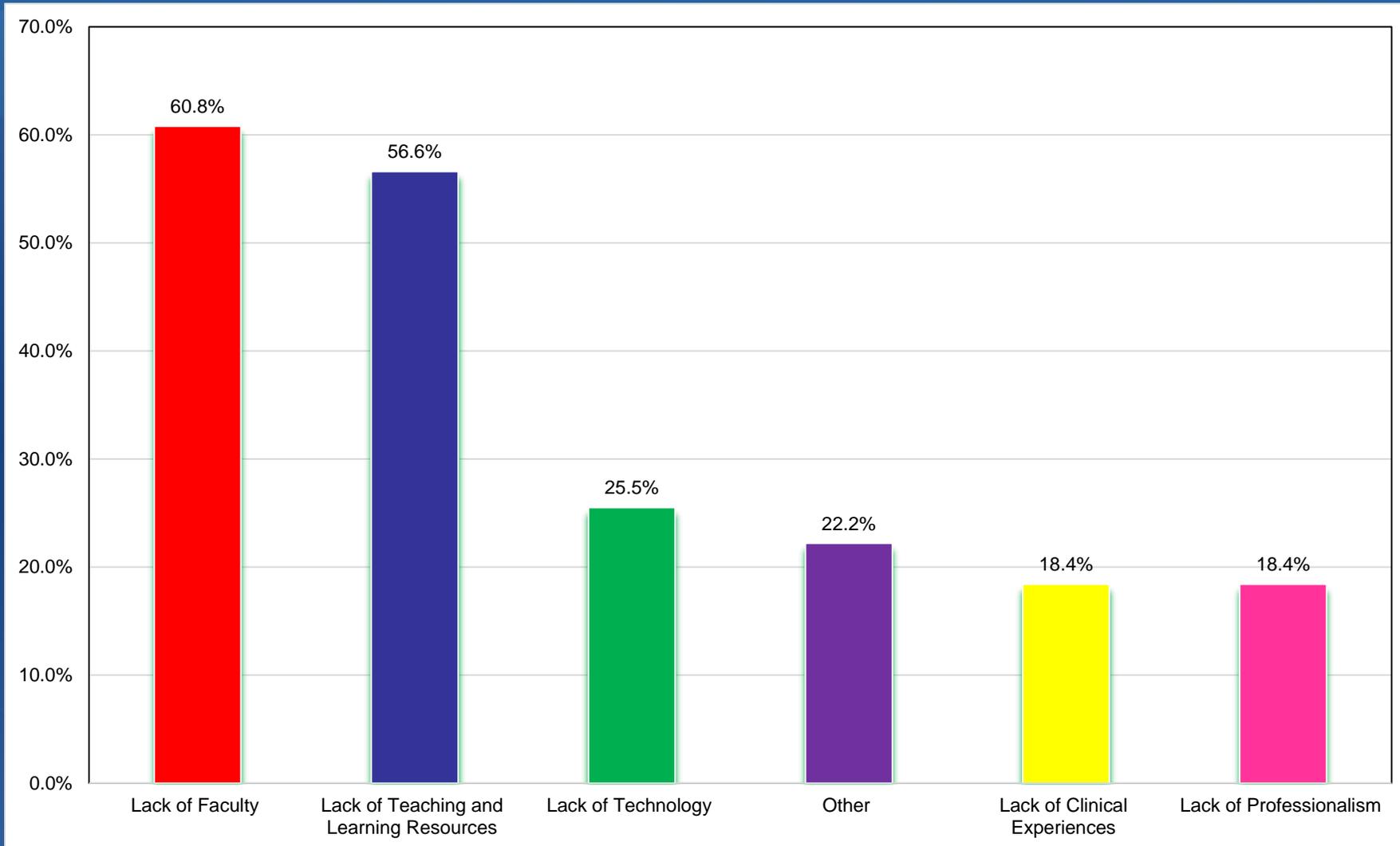
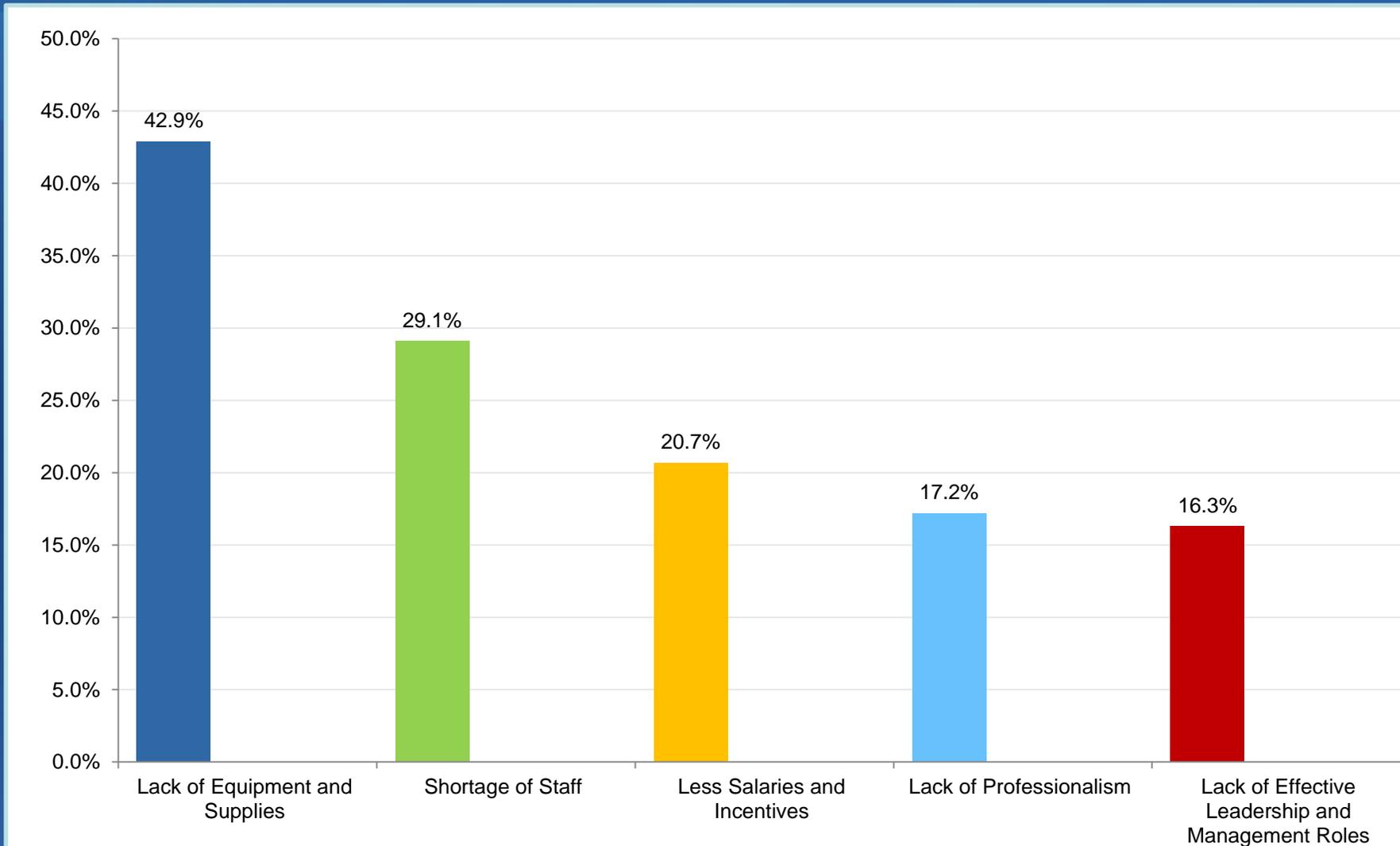




Figure 1: Top 5 Challenges of Nursing Practice





Findings of Qualitative Study in Guyana - Challenges

1. Need for Human Resources

“...the tutor student’s ratio is a great challenge. We have large classes. We need adequate staff. The students have many issues. Some find it difficult to grasp some of the nursing concepts...one on one teaching is not possible due to lack of faculty...”

“...shortage of nursing tutors is a great challenge at the moment. In addition, students do not have adequate clinical supervision due to lack of clinical instructors. We (teaching staff) have to depend on ward nurses for clinical supervision. However, due to shortage of staff nurses in the ward, this is not meeting student’s needs...”



Challenges – 2. Material resources

- *“...we need adequate equipment and supplies in the skills lab as well as in the in the hospitals. We have large classes, so we need adequate classroom facilities for conducive learning...”*
- *“...other challenges include lack of textbooks and online learning resources. We need an online library. We need to embrace technology, every lecturer should be a computer literate, each of the faculty should have a computer and all the records in the teaching institutions needs to be computerized...”*



Recommendations

- Guyana: Human resources; Material resources and Ongoing Curricular reviews

“...consistency in faculty development is imperative. Good faculty gives good outcomes. The funding has to be directed to big fixes. We should foster a culture of continuity, we should consider the sustainability of the upgrading of programs...”

“....more partnerships with the regional and international academic institutions and exchange of teaching and learning resources...”



Challenges and Recommendations in India

Challenges

- Lack of Image and scope for the Nursing profession
- Poor salaries
- Lack of Autonomy and advocacy
- Inadequate clinical experiences for students
- Lack of opportunities for In-service education for nurses in the public sector

Recommendations

- Improving the image of Nursing profession
- Offering ongoing In-service education services
- Providing adequate clinical experiences, supervision and guidance
- Increase salaries based on the expertise and the experience



Recommendation - India

- One of the participants responded:

“...I believe that one of the recommendations to meet the challenges of theory and practice gap is introducing nurse practitioner programs! I hope that nurse practitioner program will bring the image and autonomy. More positions has to be created for nursing leadership positions at the policy making level with in the states as well as at the national level...”



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