Clinical Trial Protocol
Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

16 Sep 2026

Comparing the efficacy of two ethics educational methods "Socratic questioning" and "lecturing" in nursing moral dilemmas on moral reasoning of nursing students at School of Nursing and Midwifery of Fatemeh (P.B.U.H), Shiraz 2012-2014

Protocol summary

Summary

1) Objectives: This study is going to compare the efficacy of two ethics educational methods "Socratic questioning" and "lecturing" in nursing moral dilemmas on moral reasoning of nursing students. 2) Design: This study is a randomized controlled trial that 103 nursing students are randomly stratified into three groups of experimental 1 (n=37), experimental 2 (n=33) and control (n=33). 3) Setting and conduct: After taking pretest with nursing dilemma test, the group experimental 1, will receive the ethics education in nursing moral dilemmas through Socratic questioning in six forty-minute sessions during three continues weeks. The group experimental 2, will receive similar educational content through lecturing during one three-hour workshop. The group control will receive no intervention. Right after and 2 months after the intervention, post-test will be performed and the results will be measured and analyzed. 4) Participants; Inclusion criteria: nursing students who are studying in semester 6, 7 and 8; lack of previously participating in other ethics education classes. Exclusion criteria: not attending in the classes more than two sessions; not participating in the one of the pretest or post-test sessions. 5) Intervention: Ethics education with Socratic questioning and lecturing methods. 6) Main outcome measures (variables): Nursing moral reasoning in nursing principled thinking, practical consideration and previous familiarity with the similar situation parameters

General information

Acronym

IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT2014022516729N1**
Registration date: **2014-11-14, 1393/08/23**
Registration timing: **retrospective**
Last update:
Update count: **0**

Registration date

2014-11-14, 1393/08/23

Registrant information

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Recruitment status

Recruitment complete

Funding source

Research Council of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

Expected recruitment start date

2014-01-21, 1392/11/01

Expected recruitment end date

2014-03-11, 1392/12/20

Actual recruitment start date

empty

Actual recruitment end date

empty

Trial completion date

empty

Scientific title

Comparing the efficacy of two ethics educational methods "Socratic questioning" and "lecturing" in nursing moral dilemmas on moral reasoning of nursing students at School of Nursing and Midwifery of Fatemeh (P.B.U.H), Shiraz 2012-2014

Public title
Effect of Socratic questioning on moral reasoning of nursing students
Purpose
Supportive
Inclusion/Exclusion criteria
Inclusion criteria: Nursing students of Fatemeh (P.B.U.H) school of nursing and midwifery who are studying baccalaureate nursing at semester 6,7 and 8 in the first semester of educational year 92-93; They should not have participated in any moral education class up to now. Exclusion criteria: Being absent in more than 2 classes; Not taking the pretest or post-test
Age
To **139 years** old
Gender
Both

Phase
N/A
Groups that have been masked
No information
Sample size
Target sample size: **103**
Randomization (investigator's opinion)
Randomized
Randomization description
Blinding (investigator's opinion)
Not blinded
Blinding description
Placebo
Not used
Assignment
Parallel
Other design features
Randomization; Stratified randomization: At first, nursing students of each semester (6,7 and 8) were divided into two categories of males and females. Then, based on blocked randomization, students of each category were allocated into three groups of experimental 1 (n=37), experimental 2 (n=33) and control (n=33).

Secondary Ids

1

Registry name
-
Secondary trial Id
-
Registration date
empty

Ethics committees

1

Ethics committee
Name of ethics committee
Ethics committee of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences
Street address
Zand Street, headquarters of Medical Sciences Shiraz
City
Shiraz
Postal code
71345-1978
Approval date
2014-01-15, 1392/10/25
Ethics committee reference number
92-6854

Health conditions studied

1

Description of health condition studied
moral reasoning of nursing students
ICD-10 code
ICD-10 code description

Primary outcomes

1

Description
Moral reasoning level
Timepoint
Before the intervention, right after the end of the intervention and 2 months after the end of the intervention
Method of measurement
Nursing dilemma test

Secondary outcomes

1

Description
Nursing principled thinking
Timepoint
Before the intervention, right after the end of the intervention and 2 months after the end of the intervention
Method of measurement
Nursing dilemma test

2

Description
Previous familiarity with the similar situation
Timepoint
Before the intervention, right after the end of the intervention and 2 months after the end of the intervention
Method of measurement
Nursing dilemma test

3

Description
Practical consideration
Timepoint
Before the intervention, right after the end of the

intervention and 2 months after the end of the intervention

Method of measurement

Nursing dilemma test

Intervention groups

1

Description

The group experimental 1, will receive the ethics education in nursing moral dilemmas through Socratic questioning in six forty-minute sessions during three continues weeks.

Category

Other

2

Description

The group experimental 2, will receive similar educational content through lecturing during one three-hour workshop.

Category

Other

3

Description

The group control will receive no intervention.

Category

Other

Recruitment centers

1

Recruitment center

Name of recruitment center

The School of Nursing and Midwifery of Fatemeh (P.B.U.H)

Full name of responsible person

DR. Torabizadeh, Kamelia

Street address

The School of Nursing and Midwifery of Fatemeh (P.B.U.H), Namazi Hospital, Namazi Square, Shiraz

City

Shiraz

Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor

Name of organization / entity

Research Council of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

Dr. Hatam, Gholamreza

Street address

Headquarters of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Zand Street, Shiraz

City

Shiraz

Grant name

Grant code / Reference number

Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?

Yes

Title of funding source

Research Council of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

Proportion provided by this source

100

Public or private sector

empty

Domestic or foreign origin

empty

Category of foreign source of funding

empty

Country of origin

Type of organization providing the funding

empty

Person responsible for general inquiries

Contact

Name of organization / entity

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

Homayuni, Leila

Position

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Sharing plan

Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)
empty
Study Protocol
empty
Statistical Analysis Plan
empty
Informed Consent Form
empty
Clinical Study Report
empty
Analytic Code
empty
Data Dictionary
empty