



Students' Professional Presentations and Publications

2016

Aligning Religious and Culturally Relevant Clinical Practice with Policy

Amanda F. Hopkins PhD, RN

Illinois Wesleyan University, ahopkins@iwu.edu

Wendy C. Kooken PhD, RN

Illinois Wesleyan University, wkooken@iwu.edu

Sana Shafiuddin

Illinois Wesleyan University, sshafiu@iwu.edu

Recommended Citation

Hopkins, Amanda F. PhD, RN; Kooken, Wendy C. PhD, RN; and Shafiuddin, Sana, "Aligning Religious and Culturally Relevant Clinical Practice with Policy" (2016). *Students' Professional Presentations and Publications*. Paper 4.
http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/student_prof/4

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty in the School of Nursing at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.

©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.



Aligning Religious and Culturally Relevant Clinical Practice with Policy

Amanda F. Hopkins, PhD, RN, Wendy C. Kooken, PhD, RN;

Sana Shafiuddin, BSN Student

Illinois Wesleyan University, School of Nursing



Purpose

- To evaluate cultural considerations in clinical and educational policies when working with female Muslim nursing students who wear hijab
- To suggest changes to dress code policies within academic and clinical agency settings

Strength of Evidence

- Review of literature and policies
 - Keywords: discrimination, clinical experiences, Muslim student perceptions, hijab, and spirituality in clinical experiences
 - Databases: Mega Search contains multiple databases (e.g., CINAHL Plus, ERIC, Medline, PubMed)
 - Twenty-three articles, published from 1998-2015
 - Levels of evidence ranging from IV to VII, using the Evidence Hierarchy of Designs for Cause Probing Questions
 - No systematic reviews or randomized controlled trials
 - Student handbook reviewed to determine current dress code policies
 - Policies obtained from clinical practice partners

Implementation Strategies and Stakeholders

- Student handbook was updated to incorporate inclusive language regarding dress code
- Compared disparities between dress code policies and research evidence
- Suggested language for policy change provided to clinical partners

Evaluation Methods

- Contacted clinical agencies at start of semester to determine if any agencies made recommended changes

Results

- No reported changes in agencies' dress policies occurred after recommendations made by the School of Nursing
- Agency partners' clinical dress policies were lacking in cultural sensitivity for students who wear hijab
- Nursing faculty continue to collaborate with clinical partners to create policy change that reflects sensitivity to the needs of diverse populations employed in nursing

Implemented Practice Change

- Examined dress code policies within the School of Nursing Student Handbook and five clinical agency partners', including operating room dress policies
 - Identified policy discrepancies in theory versus practice for clinical dress and allowances for modesty with long sleeves and head coverings, such as hijab in the operating room
 - New, more inclusive language in the School of Nursing Student Handbook was written and shared with clinical practice partners