

CHAPTER 4

RESULT OF THE STUDY

A total of 351 samples were included in this study, from three nursing campuses of Kathmandu, Nepal. The samples represented 45.23% of the total target population of 776 nursing students in Nepal in the academic year 1996. The three nursing campuses in Kathmandu represent the total seven nursing campuses in Nepal. All seven nursing campuses use the same curriculum. All respondents¹ were female, because at the time of data collection there was no male student in these campuses. The Institute of Medicine has stopped recruiting male students since 1991.

The major findings of this study are presented in 5 parts.

- a) The demographic information of the students, which were, year in the nursing campus, age of the respondents, marital status, religion and experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients.
- b) The level of knowledge of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year certificate level nursing students about HIV/AIDS.
- c) to describe the attitude of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year nursing students regarding HIV/AIDS and HIV/AIDS patients.

¹participating student nurses.

- d) The difference between mean knowledge and attitude scores regarding the demographic variables such as year in the nursing campus, age, marital status, religion, experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients.
- e) To describe whether knowledge and attitude score of the respondents were influenced by experience in caring for patients with HIV/AIDS.

The results are presented under different headings dealing with the main aspects of the study as well as demographic information of the respondents.

4.1 Demographic information :

The first part of the questionnaire elicited demographic data from nursing students of the three nursing campuses (Maharajgunj, Lalitpur and Bir Hospital nursing campus) of Kathmandu, in terms of year in nursing campus, age, marital status, religion, experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients.

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Table 4.1. Percentage & frequency distribution of demographic data for all respondents.

Items	Frequency (n= 351)	%
<u>Years in Campus</u>		
1st year	123	35
2nd year	124	35.4
3rd year	104	29.6
<u>Age in years</u>		
16 - 18	167	47.6
19 - 21	159	45.3
22 - 25	12	3.4
25 above	13	3.7
<u>Marital Status</u>		
Single	326	92.9
married	24	6.8
Divorce	1	0.3
<u>Religion</u>		
Hindu	315	89.7
Buddhist	26	7.4
Christian	9	2.6
Muslim	1	0.3
<u>Experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients.</u>		
Yes	67	19.1
No	284	80.9
<u>Campus</u>		
Maharajgung	126	35.9
Lalitpur	128	36.5
Bir Hospital	97	27.6

Table 4.1 shows the frequency distribution and percentage of demographic information of the respondents such as year in nursing campus, age, marital status, religion,

campus and experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients.

As noted in Table 4.1, out of the total 351 respondents 123 (35.0%) were from the first year, 124 (35.4%) were from the second year and 104 (29.6%) from the third year.

It was also indicated that out of the total 351 total respondents, 128 (36.5%) were from Lalitpur nursing campus, 126 (35.9%) were from Maharajgunj nursing campus and 97 (27.6%) were from Bir hospital nursing campus.

Majority of the students, 167 (47.6%) were from age group between 16 - 18, and 159 (45.3%) were from the age between 19 - 21 years, from the age group between 22-25 there were only 12 (3.4%) and from the age 25 years and above there were 13 (3.7%) respondents.

In relation to marital status, the majority of the respondents, 326 (92.9%) were single. Twenty four respondents (6.8%) reported that they were married and one respondent (0.3%) had divorce.

The religious affiliation was predominantly Hindu 315 (89.7%). Twenty six students (7.4%) were Buddhists and nine respondents (2.6%) were Christians. The number of respondents from Muslim group was only one (0.3%).

Out of the total 351 students, The majority of the students, 284 (80.9%) indicated that they had no experience in taking care of AIDS patients. Only 67 (19.1%) students had experience in taking care of AIDS patients.

Table 4.2 Proportion of students who had experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients according to the year in nursing campus.

Year in Campus	Number	Experience				Total
		Yes		No		
		n	%	n	%	
1st Year	123	6	4.9	117	95.1	123
2nd Year	124	17	13.7	107	86.3	124
3rd year	104	44	42.3	60	57.7	104
Total	351	67		284		351

Chi square = 54.71, df = 2, P value = 0.000

Table 4.2 shows the proportion of nursing students who had experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients by the year in nursing campus.

This table shows that 44 students 42.3% (n=104) from the 3rd year had experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients. From the 2nd year 17 students (13.7%) out of 124 respondents had experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients and from the 1st year, only 6 students (4.9%) out of 123 respondents had experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS

patients. It indicates that the highest number of students who had experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients was the 3rd year and the lowest number was the 1st year.

4.2 Knowledge about HIV/AIDS:

In order to assess the level of knowledge of nursing students, the data were collected by six knowledge subscale: etiology/clinical aspects, transmission, management and care, prevention, universal precaution and the AIDS status of Nepal. Altogether there were 21 multiple choice questions which had only one correct response. The score for a correct response was 1 and for an incorrect response was 0. For the total sample, the mean score on the 21 knowledge questions was 15.4 with a range of 8 - 21 correct answers. Table 4.3 shows the details of the responses.

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Table 4.3 Percentage and frequency distribution of knowledge scores of respondents according to the year in nursing campus.

Knowledge	Number of Students			Freq.	Percent
	1st Yr.	2nd yr.	3rd yr.		
8	1	0	0	1	0.3
9	0	1	0	1	0.3
10	4	2	1	7	2.0
11	5	0	1	6	1.7
12	8	3	2	13	3.7
13	15	4	13	32	9.1
14	24	14	10	48	13.7
15	32	17	18	67	19.1
16	20	27	22	69	19.7
17	12	29	20	61	17.4
18	1	18	13	32	9.1
19	1	8	1	10	2.8
20	0	0	2	2	0.6
21	0	1	1	2	0.6
Total	123	124	104	351	100

Table 4.3 shows the percentage and frequency distribution of knowledge scores of 1st, 2nd and 3rd year nursing students about HIV/AIDS.

As shown in the above table, minimum score obtained by 1st, 2nd and 3rd year nursing students were 8, 9 and 10 respectively and the maximum score was 19 by the 1st year students and 21 by both the 2nd and 3rd year nursing students out of possible score of 21. It shows that both the minimum and maximum scores obtained by the 2nd and 3rd year students was higher than the 1st year nursing students.

Table 4.4 Mean and SD of knowledge score of respondents according to the year in nursing campus.

Year in the Campus	Number	Mean	SD	P value
First Year	123	14.398	1.885	
Second Year	124	16.048	1.967	0.000
Third Year	104	15.673	1.958	
Total	351	15.4	0.110	

Table 4.4 shows the mean score and standard deviation of knowledge of the nursing students according to the year in nursing campus.

As shown in Table 4.4 the mean knowledge score of the 1st year was 14.398 with SD of 1.885. The mean knowledge score of 2nd year nursing students was 16.048 with SD of 1.967 and the mean knowledge score of 3rd year students was 15.673 with SD of 1.958. It indicated that 2nd year nursing students had higher mean knowledge score than 3rd year students. This might be due to the 2nd year teacher had attended the AIDS workshop this year so they had current knowledge to teach the students and it also seems that the 2nd year teacher was quite interested about HIV/AIDS. So this affect on the students also. This table indicates that there was a difference between mean knowledge score among the 1st, 2nd and 3rd year nursing students. P value was <0.05 .

Table 4.5 Mean score of knowledge according to the marital status of the respondents

Marital Status	Number	Mean	S.D.	t value	P value
Single	326	15.337	4.28	0.706	0.512
Married	25	15.640	3.907		
Total	351	15.488	4.093		

Table 4.5 shows the mean and S.D. of knowledge score about HIV/AIDS according to the marital status of the respondents.

The mean score of knowledge of respondents who were single was 15.337 with S.D. of 4.280 and the mean score of those who were married was 15.640 with S.D. of 3.907. It shows that there were only slight differences in the mean knowledge score according to the marital status. But there was no statistically significant differences $p = >0.05$ level.

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Table 4.6 Results of t-test of total knowledge scores for respondents with and without experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients

Experience	Number	Mean	S.D.	T value	P value
Yes	67	15.433	1.893	0.325	>0.05
No	284	15.342	2.102		
Total	351	15.388	1.997		

Table 4.6 shows the results of the t-test analysis of mean knowledge score by experience in caring of AIDS patients.

This table shows that there was no significant difference between the mean knowledge score of the respondents by their experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients. P value was at > 0.05 level. The mean score of the respondents who had experience in taking care of AIDS patients was 15.43 and S.D. of 1.893 and the mean score of those who did not had experience in taking care of AIDS patients was 15.342, with S.D. of 2.102.

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Table 4.7. Percentage equivalents of knowledge subscale score of the respondents

Scale	Number of questions	Mean percentage score
Etiology/clinical aspects	4	62.75
Transmission	3	88.51
Management & care	2	88.32
Prevention	4	77.92
Universal precaution	4	72.51
AIDS status of Nepal	4	60.04
Total	21	

Table 4.7 shows the percentage equivalents of knowledge subscale scores of the respondents.

This table shows that, in knowledge subscale the respondents had more knowledge on transmission (88.51 %) and on management and care of HIV/AIDS patients (88.32 %). They obtained 77.92% in prevention and 72.51% in universal precautions, but in etiology/clinical aspects and status of AIDS in Nepal, students obtained only 62.75% and 60.04% respectively.

In relation to some of the specific questions, more than 90% of the students knew that HIV/AIDS was highly transmitted if same syringe was used for injection (99.4%), or through semen (94.0%), and the nurse should use gloves to collect specimen from HIV/AIDS patients and should send it to

the lab in a protective bag (94.0%).

Likewise more than 70% of the respondents knew that girls trafficking were prone to HIV/AIDS in Nepal (71.8%), there was a high risk of transmitting HIV/AIDS during sexual intercourse without a condom (72.4%), that the homosexuals and bisexuals were advised to use a condom in order to avoid the spread of AIDS (79.2%), the best way to prevent from HIV/AIDS infection in health care setting is by applying universal precautions while taking care of AIDS patients (87.2%), currently in Nepal commercial sex workers were mostly affected with HIV/AIDS (88.9%)

There was 100% knowledge in relation to two questions out of 21 questions. The items are AIDS is caused by virus and the important suggestion that they have to give to HIV/AIDS patients in order to prevent other people from infection is to be careful about his blood and body fluids.

There was a lack of knowledge in relation to some of the questions. More than 50% of the students did not know the best way to prevent from needle injury at the time of giving injection (47.9%), which cell in the immune system is damaged by the AIDS virus (45.6%). Very few (20.5%) knew that the first AIDS case was diagnosed in Nepal in 1988. Only 71.8% of the respondents knew that those involved in girls trafficking behavior are more prone to HIV/AIDS. (Appendix 4)

Attitude towards HIV/AIDS:

Data were collected on four attitudinal subscales, attitudes towards persons with AIDS, fear of occupational exposure to HIV/AIDS, the use of universal precaution and status of HIV/AIDS in Nepal. On five point scale, higher score indicated more positive attitudes. Altogether there were 20 questions.

Table 4.8 Percentage distribution of students according to total attitude scores

Scores	Number	Percent
0 - 5	1	0.3
6 - 10	47	13.4
11 - 15	186	53.0
16 - 20	117	33.3
Total	351	100

Mean score = 13.906, S.D.= 2.942

Table 4.8 shows the distribution of the total attitude scores of the student about HIV/AIDS.

In this table, as can be seen, scores ranged from 0 - 20. It shows that the highest number of students, 186 (53.0%) scored between 11 - 15 positive answers. It shows that 117 (33.3%) respondents scored between 16-20 positive answers and 47 (13.4%) respondents scored 6-10 positive

answers. Only one student (0.3%) scored 5 positive answers on attitude questions. The mean attitude scores of the total students on 20 questions was 13.906 and standard deviation of 2.942.

Table 4.9 Difference between mean attitude scores of the respondents according to the year in nursing campus

Year in nursing campus	Number	Mean	S.D.	p value
1st year	123	13.146	2.913	
2nd year	124	13.661	3.006	0.000
3rd year	104	15.096	2.526	
Total	351	13.967	2.815	

Table 4.9 shows the mean score, standard deviation and p value of attitude score of students about HIV/AIDS according to the year in nursing campus.

It shows that the mean attitude score obtained by the first year nursing students was 13.146 with S.D. of 2.913, the mean score obtained by the 2nd year student was 13.661 with S.D. of 3.006 which was higher than the 1st year students. The mean attitude score of the 3rd year student was 15.096 and SD of 2.526 which was higher than the 1st and 2nd years mean attitude scores.

There was a difference between the mean attitude score of the 1st, 2nd and the 3rd year students.

An analysis of variance (ANOVA) also represents statistically significant difference in attitude scores across the group. P value < 0.05.

Table 4.10 Difference between mean attitude score of the respondents by age

Age of students	Number	Mean	S.D.	P
16 - 18 yrs	167	13.509	2.881	0.008
19 - 21 yrs	159	14.101	2.975	
22 years above	25	15.320	2.673	
Total	351	14.31	2.843	

The above table 4.10 shows the mean score, standard deviation and p value of attitude of the student about HIV/AIDS according to the age.

It shows that the respondents with age between 16 - 18 years had the mean score at 13.509 with standard deviation of 2.881, students with age between 19 - 21 years had mean score at 14.101 with standard deviation of 2.975. The students between the age of 22 years above had the mean score at 15.320 and SD of 2.673 . The mean score of the total respondents was 14.31 with S.D. of 2.843.

It indicated that there was difference between mean attitude score of students by their age. There was statistically significant difference with $p = < 0.05$.

Table 4.11 Difference between mean attitude score of the respondents by marital status

Marital status	Number	Mean	S.D.	t value	p value
Single	326	13.923	2.959	0.398	0.693
Married	25	13.680	2.765		
Total	351	13.801	2.862		

Table 4.11 shows the mean attitude score, standard deviation of students about HIV/AIDS patients according to marital status.

In this table it was shown that the students who were single had the mean attitude score at 13.923 and S.D. of 2.959, The students who were married had the mean attitude score at 13.680 with S.D. of 2.765. For the mean score of the attitude of the total students was 13.801 with standard deviation of 2.862.

There was no statistically significant difference between mean attitude score and marital status, $p = > 0.05$ level.

Table 4.12 Results of t-test of the total attitude scores with and without experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients.

Experience	Number	Mean	S.D.	T value	P value
Yes	67	14.597	2.892	2.148	0.030
No	284	13.743	2.935		
Total	351	14.17	2.913		

Table 4.12 shows the results of the "t" test analysis of the mean attitude scores by their experience in caring for AIDS patients.

This table indicated that there was statistically significant difference between the mean attitude score of student by their experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients. P value was at <0.05 level. The mean score of student who had experience in taking care of AIDS patient was higher (14.597) with S.D. of 2.892 than those who had no experience in taking care of AIDS patient (13.743) and S.D. of 2.935. The total mean attitude score of the students on experience in taking care of AIDS patient was 14.17 with S.D. of 2.913.

It indicated that there was statistically significant difference between attitude across the group by their experience in taking care of AIDS patients.

Table 4.13 Proportion of attitude scores of respondents by the year in nursing campus.

Year in Campus	No	+ score %	uncertainty %	- score %
1st Year	123	65.73	13.33	20.94
2nd Year	124	68.23	13.67	18.10
3rd Year	104	75.58	9.90	14.52
Chi square 57.73, df=4, P value = 0.000				

Table 4.13 shows the proportion of attitude score obtained by the students according to the year in nursing campus.

This table shows that the proportion of positive attitude of the 1st year nursing students was 65.73% and the 2nd year nursing students was 68.23%. The third year nursing students indicated a 75.58% positive attitude. It indicated that the 3rd year nursing students had the highest attitude score and the 1st year students had the lowest attitude score. There was statistically significant difference in attitude scores according to year in nursing campus. P value was <0.05 level.

In relation to the some of the specific questions on attitudes towards HIV/AIDS patients, 84.3% of the respondents agreed that people with HIV/AIDS should be allowed to attend public school and college, 77.2% of the respondents said that

they were willing to invite a friend who was known to be infected with AIDS to a party at their home, and 71.5% agreed that person with HIV/AIDS should be allowed to use public bathroom.

When asked about their willingness to care for HIV/AIDS patients, 92.3% of the respondents were glad to talk and give advice to HIV/AIDS patients, 88.0% of the respondents agreed that every health team member should give interest and help to AIDS patient, 83.8% of the respondents agreed that every students should have experience in taking care of HIV/AIDS patients, and 63.0% of the respondents were glad and ready to give nursing care to HIV/AIDS patients.

In relation to the fear about occupational exposure to HIV/AIDS while caring for HIV/AIDS patients, 63.2% of the respondents said that they were not afraid to take care of HIV/AIDS patients, 78.9% of the respondents said that they did not feel upset when they learned that they had to care for HIV/AIDS patients, 68.7% of the respondents said that they would not drop out from their study if they were assigned to take care of HIV/AIDS patients.

Only 45.0% of the respondents agreed that a person with HIV/AIDS infection should be entitled to the same care as any other patients and 61.5% respondents agreed that patients should not be isolated from other patients 61.5%.

In relation to use of universal precaution while caring for HIV/AIDS patients 96.3% of the respondents agreed that it is necessary to use universal precaution technique to prevent and protect themselves from transmitting the disease and only 77.2% of the respondents said that they had more confidence in caring for HIV/AIDS patients by using universal precaution.

Only a few respondents 19.1% indicated that nurses and doctors who had HIV/AIDS should not work in their chosen field.



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