

A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS PERCEPTION AND LEVEL OF SATISFACTION OF MALE NURSING STUDENTS REGARDING THEIR MATERNITY CLINICAL POSTING OF SELECTED NURSING COLLEGES IN VADODARA

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ABSTRACT

Maternity clinical postings play a crucial role in nursing education by offering students practical exposure to maternal and newborn care. However, male nursing students often encounter unique challenges during these postings, such as gender bias, limited hands-on opportunities, and exclusion from key procedures. These experiences can affect their perception of maternity care, reduce satisfaction with the clinical posting, and influence their professional confidence. This descriptive study was undertaken to assess the perception and level of satisfaction of male nursing students regarding their maternity clinical posting in selected nursing colleges in Vadodara. The study also aimed to determine the association between these variables and selected demographic factors. A total of 100 male nursing students were selected using a non-probability convenience sampling technique. Data were collected using self-structured tools: an 11-item perception scale and a 15-item satisfaction scale divided into teaching-related, clinical teaching-related, and procedure demonstration-related domains. The results showed that 48% of participants were aged between 20–21 years, 57% were enrolled in the B.Sc. Nursing program, and 42% were in their final year. Half of the respondents reported experiencing gender bias during their maternity clinical posting. Despite these challenges, 54% of students were either satisfied or very satisfied, and 63% expressed a positive perception of their posting. A statistically significant positive correlation was observed between perception and satisfaction ($r = 0.679$, $p < 0.01$). Additionally, gender bias showed a significant association with both perception and satisfaction ($p < 0.05$). The study concludes that inclusive clinical environments and gender-sensitive teaching approaches are essential to enhance male nursing students' learning experiences in maternity care.

Keywords: Assess, Nomophobia, Impact, BAMS students, Nursing student, Nursing college, Impact, Comparative Study, Descriptive Study.

INTRODUCTION

Nursing is a profession that integrates compassion and science in providing care¹. In India, though more males are entering nursing, clinical settings such as maternity care remain largely female-dominated.² Male nursing students often face bias and limited involvement during maternity clinical postings, which may hinder their professional growth. Understanding their experiences is essential for improving nursing education and fostering equality in clinical training environments³

NEED OF THE STUDY

Though the number of male nurses is increasing, their experience in maternity care is often restricted due to societal stereotypes. A large proportion of male nursing students report dissatisfaction and low confidence due to limited involvement in maternity settings. Addressing this issue is critical for gender-inclusive nursing education and improving the professional development of male nursing students in maternal health care areas.⁴

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the perception of male nursing students regarding their maternity clinical posting.
2. To assess the level of satisfaction of male nursing students regarding their maternity clinical posting.
3. To find out the relationship between perception and level of satisfaction of male nursing students.
4. To determine the association between perception and satisfaction with selected demographic variables

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Research Approach: A quantitative research approach was adopted for this study to assess the perception and level of satisfaction among male nursing students regarding their maternity clinical posting.

Research Design: A descriptive research design was used to systematically describe the perception and satisfaction levels of male nursing students without manipulating any variables.

Setting of the Study: The study was conducted in selected nursing colleges in Vadodara, Gujarat, where male nursing students were posted in maternity clinical areas.

Population: The target population consisted of male nursing students who had either completed or were currently undergoing maternity clinical postings.

Sample and Sampling Technique: A sample size of 100 male nursing students was selected using a non-probability convenience sampling technique, considering accessibility and willingness to participate.

Sampling Criteria:

Inclusion Criteria:

- Male nursing students who had completed or were undergoing maternity clinical posting
- Students who were willing to participate
- B.Sc., GNM, Post Basic B.Sc., and M.Sc. Nursing students

Exclusion Criteria:

- Female nursing students
- Students not willing to participate
- Postgraduate students from specialties other than OBG nursing

Data Collection Tools: Data were collected using a self-structured questionnaire, divided into three sections:

1. Section A: Socio-Demographic Variables
2. Section B: Satisfaction Scale (15 items across 3 domains)
3. Section C: Perception Scale (11 items)

Validity: The tool was validated by 5 nursing experts, and necessary modifications were made.

Data Collection Procedure: Formal administrative permission and ethical clearance were obtained. After informed consent, data were collected over a two-week period.

Data Analysis: Data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics with SPSS. Descriptive statistics included frequency, percentage, mean, and SD. Inferential statistics included Chi-square test and Pearson correlation coefficient

RESULTS

The findings have been organized and discussed according to the objectives:

1. To Assess The Satisfaction of Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting of Selected Nursing College
2. To Assess The Perception of Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting of Selected Nursing College
- 3 .To Find out Relationship between Perception and Level of Satisfaction of Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting of Selected Nursing College
4. To Find out Association of Perception and Level of Satisfaction with Social Demographic Variables of Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting of Selected Nursing College

Demographic Characteristics:

- Age: Most students were aged 20–21 years (48%)
- Program: Majority in B.Sc. Nursing (57%)
- Year of Study: 4th year (42%), 3rd year (35%)
- Hospital Type: 78% trained in private hospitals
- Marital Status: 98% single
- Work Experience: 45% had prior healthcare experience
- Residence: 60% urban
- Gender Bias: 50% experienced bias
- Gender-related Challenges: 52% faced challenges

Table 1: Frequency and percentage distribution of demographic variable of Perception and Level of Satisfaction Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting.

Demographic Data	Category	Frequency F	Percentage %
Age	18-19 years	07	07
	20-21 years	48	48
	22-23 years	36	36
	24> years	09	09
Which type of nursing program are you enrolled in?	Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSc Nursing)	57	57
	General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM)	29	29
	Post Basic B.Sc. Nursing (PB BSc)	07	07
	Master of Science in Nursing (MSc Nursing)	07	07
Year of the study?	1stYear	08	08
	2ndYear	15	15

	3rdYear	35	35
	4thYear	42	42
Hospital for training?	Private	78	78
	Government	15	15
	Clinic	04	04
	PHC/CHC	03	03
What is your current marital status?	Single	98	98
	Married	02	02
Do you have any prior health care work experience before enrolling in the nursing program?	Yes	45	45
	No	55	55
What is your area of residence?	Urban	60	60
	Rural	40	40
Are you interested in specializing in maternity or obstetric nursing after graduation?	Yes	60	60
	No	40	40
Have you experienced any form of gender bias or discrimination during your maternity care rotation?	Yes	50	50
	No	50	50
Have you faced any specific challenges related to your gender in maternity care settings?	Yes	52	52
	No	48	48

What are as of Obstetrics and Gynecology s(OBG) posting are you most interested in gaining experience?	Maternity Wards (Prenatal, Postnatal Care)	20	20
	Labor and Delivery Rooms	29	29
	Gynecology Wards (Reproductive Health Issues)	06	06
	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	14	14
	Outpatient Clinics (Routine Checkups, Family Planning)	06	06
	Ultra sound and Diagnostic Imaging	03	03
	Family Planning Clinics	10	10
	Surgical Units C-sections, Hysterectomies	12	12

Table 2: Frequency and percentage distribution of Level of Satisfaction among Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting

Level of Satisfaction	Level of Satisfaction	
	f	%
Very Dissatisfied (0 – 15)	08	08 %
Dissatisfied (16 – 30)	20	20 %
Neutral (31—45)	18	18 %
Satisfied (46 – 60)	28	28 %
Very Satisfied (61 – 75)	26	26 %

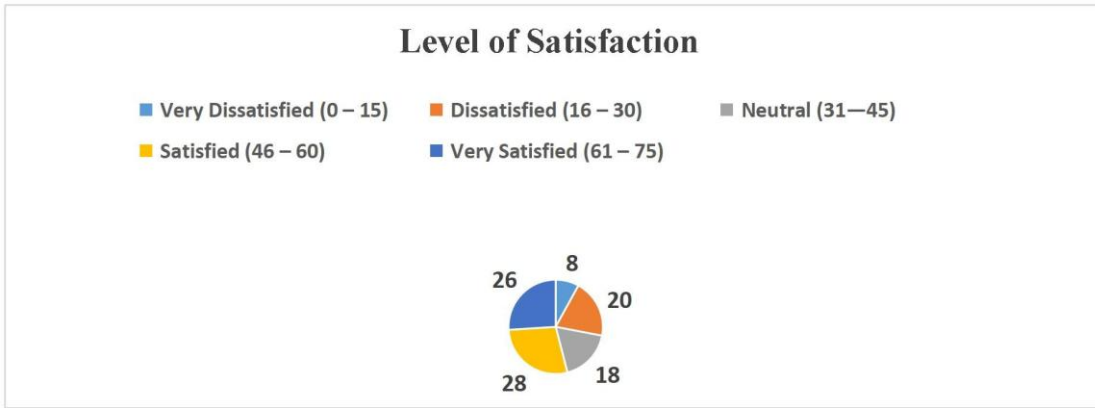


Table 3: Frequency and percentage distribution of Level of Perception among Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting

Level of Perception	Level of Perception	
	f	%
Strongly disagree (0– 11)	03	03 %
Disagree (12 – 22)	09	09 %
Neutral (23 – 33)	25	25 %
Agree (34 – 44)	33	33 %
Strongly Agree (45 – 55)	30	30 %

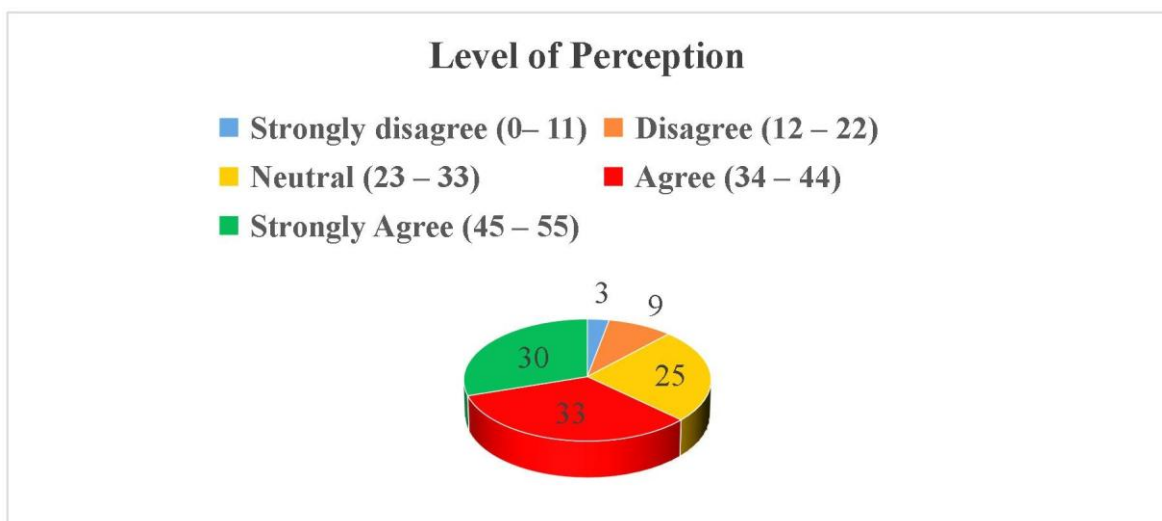


Table 4: correlation between Perception and Level of Satisfaction Male Nursing Student Regarding Their Maternity Clinical Posting.

Correlation	Mean	SD	r Value	p Value
Level of Perception	3.7800	1.06913	0.679	0.001*
Level of Satisfaction	3.4400	1.28959		

3. Correlation Between Perception and Satisfaction:

- $r = 0.679$, $p = 0.001$

=> Strong positive correlation (statistically significant)

4. Association with Demographic Variables:

No significant association with age, course, year, or hospital type

Gender bias significantly associated with satisfaction ($p = 0.047$)

DISCUSSION

This study assessed the satisfaction and perception of male nursing students regarding their maternity clinical postings. The findings revealed that 54% of students were satisfied, while 28% were dissatisfied and 18% remained neutral. Satisfaction was mainly influenced by teaching methods and supportive faculty, but limited clinical involvement—especially in deliveries and newborn care—led to dissatisfaction. These findings align with Eswi and El Sayed (2010)⁵, who also reported that male students often felt excluded and embarrassed due to restricted participation in maternity procedures.

Perception-wise, 63% had a positive outlook, while 12% had negative views and 25% were neutral. Negative perceptions were linked to gender-related limitations and perceived discrimination. A similar study by Alshammari et al. (2023)⁶ showed that 82.8% of male students felt they were treated differently due to their gender, and 35.5% were refused care by clients, impacting their confidence and future interest in maternity care.

A strong positive correlation ($r = 0.679$, $p = 0.001$) was found between perception and satisfaction, indicating that students with better perceptions of their experience were more likely to be satisfied. No significant associations were found between satisfaction/perception and socio-demographic

variables. However, students who experienced gender bias had significantly lower satisfaction ($p = 0.047$). A related study in Hong Kong⁷ found that male students were often treated as helpers rather than learners and excluded from key procedures. This highlights the need for gender-sensitive mentorship and inclusive clinical practices.

In conclusion, efforts are needed to reduce gender bias and ensure equal opportunities for male nursing students in maternity settings to improve their clinical learning experience.

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CONCLUSION

The study concludes that male nursing students generally perceive maternity postings positively, yet face gender-related barriers that affect satisfaction. Promoting inclusive learning environments, equal clinical opportunities, and faculty sensitization programs can help overcome these challenges and support male students in maternal healthcare education.

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