

ORIGINAL PAPER

Psychometric Properties and Reliability of the Turkish Version of the Technology Attitudes Survey and Nursing Students' Attitudes Toward Technology

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Abstract

Background: Recent developments in computer and information technologies led to significant changes to the nursing profession. Nurses should possess sufficient knowledge, skills and critical thinking regarding information technologies to offer modern, evidence-based healthcare. Current educational circumstance and its consequences must be evaluated to enable an effective and comprehensive education, and the students' opinions and attitudes must be considered regarding curriculum development.

Aims: to evaluate the psychometric properties of the Turkish Technology Attitude Survey', and to assess senior nursing students' opinions concerning informatics education and their attitudes towards technology.

Methodology: This descriptive and cross-sectional study was conducted at the Nursing Departments of five universities in Ankara, Turkey. Data were collected by a questionnaire developed by the researchers and Technology Attitude Survey. A total of 238 students have completed these forms. Descriptive statistics, parametric and nonparametric tests and exploratory factor analysis were used in data analysis.

Results: Virtually all students consider that educational programs encourage them to use information technologies, 22.3% evaluate their informatics education to be sufficient, while 50.4% were willing to choose a nursing informatics course during their undergraduate program. The Technology Attitudes Survey was found to be a valid and reliable scale in evaluating nursing students' attitudes towards technology. Moreover, a significant difference was observed between the students' computer-internet usages and their attitudes towards technology, and their opinions about having an informatics education in the curriculum.

Conclusions: Consequently, the preparation of an informatics education model for nursing education programs is suggested, and scientific activities should be improved to raise students' awareness of informatics education.

Key Words: Technology; Attitude; Nursing students; Nursing informatics