

**FACTORS INFLUENCING IMPLEMENTATION OF NURSING
PROCESS IN RIFT VALLEY PROVINCIAL GENERAL HOSPITAL**

Mary Njoki Kamau

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ABSTRACT

The nursing process is an instrument to guide nurses' clinical decisions and, as such, refers to the intellectual and cognitive processes of nursing practice (Adejumo, 2009). The nursing process has been described as a theory of how nurses organize the care of individuals, families and communities (Herdman et al. 2009). The extent of implementation of the nursing process in the clinical setting has not been extensively studied and documented in many countries in Africa including Kenya. The broad objective of the study was to determine factors influencing implementation of nursing process in Rift Valley Provincial General Hospital. The specific Objectives guiding the study were to establish the socio-demographic factors influencing the implementation of the nursing process, to assess the level of knowledge of nurses on the nursing process, to determine the attitude of nurses on the nursing process and to find out the administrative factors influencing nurses' use of the nursing process. This researcher used a descriptive cross sectional study design where both qualitative and quantitative methods were used. The study was conducted in Rift Valley Provincial General Hospital. The hospital is in Nakuru Town west constituency. The study targeted all nurses in in-patient wards in Rift Valley Provincial General Hospital. These are only those who have been in the hospital since 2010 to the last six months. The total number of nurses in the hospital was 439 (MOH, 2015). The number of nurses dealing with in-patient cases was 240. This was the target population. Sample size was 148 nurses and the formula used was by Cochran (2011) Simple random sampling technique was used to select nurses after proportional allocation of sample size to 19 wards. List of nurses was received from the office of the nursing officer in charge and each ward was allocated 8 nurses then a lottery method was employed in each ward till the exact number 148 was obtained. Questionnaire with open and close ended questions were administered After collection of data, it was computed and stored in raw form. It was thereafter analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 20. Data was presented in charts, graphs and tables. In the findings 25.4% of the respondents agreed that the nursing process is important to patients only while 32.4 % of the respondents strongly agreed that the nursing process is important to nurses only. The study also proves that the respondents strongly agree that the nursing process is important to both nurses and patients (36.6%). In conclusion shortage of nurses is a factor that influences implementation of nursing

process and administration support towards nursing process was a major influence in the study were also the study found out that in-service training of nurses in nursing process was not ongoing at the moment. The study recommended the Nakuru County Government should implement strategies that enable the nurses advance their nursing careers by providing incentives or motivators to those willing to study, Moreover, The county government should employ more nurses and buy equipments when resources are available so that all patients may be managed using nursing process. The researcher recommends that there should be regular support supervision of nurses by head of departments to ensure quality nursing care is given to patients.