

The Transcultural Training Needs of Practice Nurses in Ireland

ABSTRACT

This study which was carried out in 2004 utilised both qualitative and quantitative methods to establish any gaps in Irish practice nurses' knowledge and understanding of health beliefs and health practices of patients from ethnic groups now living in Ireland. For the purpose of this study the ethnic groups examined include Travellers, Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

Semi-structured interviews among Dublin based practice nurses informed the development of a questionnaire which was sent to 248 members of the Irish Practice Nurse Association.

With a response rate of 68% then findings provided a rich source of data concerning practice nurses in Ireland which added to the dearth of information at that time.

This research has highlighted the overwhelming need for training in the area of transcultural health care, 9.5% of respondents had received some form of training and 87% requested training. The literature demonstrates that language is a barrier for health professionals in their delivery of health care to ethnic minority groups; this was supported by 79% of respondents.

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