Applying psychosocial theories for nursing students

There is an increasing awareness about the importance of community based placements for nursing students given their work with vulnerable, unwell groups (Baglin and Rugg, 2010; Gerber, 2013).

The placement of students studying nursing has traditionally focused on acute care providing the student with important clinical skills. However, opportunities for students to apply their understanding about the impact psychosocial issues and social determinants of health has outside the acute care sector is also warranted, as it better enables them to be informed about what those influences are on health, illness, recovery and wellness.

Furthermore, with the increasing provision of home visiting and community based healthcare services, there is an evolving need for more community based placements with a variety of population groups.

Teaching nursing students about the broader population through community based placements with disadvantaged groups increases the students’ confidence in dealing with the variety of people they will encounter in the acute care setting.

References


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