

Abstract

The objective of the study was to provide new insight on how practicing nurses at KNH find information to support clinical decisions. Previous research in the field, demonstrate that information seeking behavior has an effect on the nursing care and practice. The study adopted descriptive survey design; the target population was 1723 practicing nurses. Structured questionnaires were used to collect data. Data was analyzed by use of likert scale and Microsoft excel and presented through tables, charts, figure, graphs and percentage. Four information needs were cited by practicing nurses at KNH; patient care, in-service presentation, presentation at a professional meeting/seminar and scholarship application/career development. The most preferred source of information was human sources such as colleagues and doctors. Internet came second as preferred source of information. Public libraries and personal libraries were rated lowly. Practicing nurses at KNH ware aware of reference books, textbooks, personal contacts such as colleagues and doctors as sources of information. The insights from the study will help health organizations in design of information services, guide future researchers and contribute to the professional knowledge.