

I. INTRODUCTION OF THE PROGRAM

The B.Sc. nursing degree program is a four-year fulltime program comprising eight semesters, which prepares B.Sc. (Nursing) graduates qualified to practice nursing and midwifery in a variety of settings in either public/government or private healthcare settings. It adopts credit system and semester system as per the Authority guidelines with minor modifications suitable to professional education in a hybrid form. The program encompasses foundational, core and elective courses. The choice-based system is applicable to electives only and is offered in the form of modules. Modular learning is also integrated in the foundational as well as core courses that are mandatory.

The program prepares nurses and midwives for generalist nursing including midwifery practice. Knowledge acquisition related to wellness, health promotion, illness, disease management and care of the dying is core to nursing practice. Mastery of competencies is the main focus. Students are provided with opportunities to learn a whole range of skills in addition to acquiring knowledge related to nursing practice (nursing and midwifery). This is achieved through learning in skill lab/simulated lab and clinical environment. Simulation will be integrated throughout the curriculum wherever feasible to enable them to develop competencies before entry into real field of practice.

The revised curriculum embraces competency-based and outcome-based approach throughout the program integrating mastery learning and self-directed learning. Transformational and relationship based educational approaches are emphasized. Through the educational process the students assimilate and synthesize knowledge, cultivate critical thinking skills and develop care strategies. Competencies that reflect practice standards of the Council address the areas of cultural diversity, communication technology, teamwork and collaboration, safety, quality, therapeutic interventions and evidence-based practice. They are prepared to provide safe and competent care to patients across life span and influence patient outcomes.

I. PHILOSOPHY

The Council believes that:

Health and wellness are two fundamental concepts that are integrated throughout the program. Health is a state of well-being that encompasses physical, psychological, social, economic and spiritual dimensions. Wellness is the individual's perception of wellness and is influenced by the presence of disease and individual's ability to adapt. Health is a right of all people. Individuals have a right to be active participants in achieving health as they perceive it. Society consists of dynamic and interactive systems involving individuals, families, groups and communities. Cultural diversity, race, caste, creed, socio economic levels, religion, lifestyles, changes in environment and political factors influence it. Nurses and midwives recognize and respect human differences and diversity of population within society and provide ethical care with respect and dignity and protect their rights.

Nursing as a profession and a discipline utilizes knowledge derived from arts, sciences (physical, biological and behavioral), humanities and human experience. Nursing science incorporates clinical competence, critical thinking, communication, teaching learning, professionalism, and caring and cultural competency. Nurses collaborate with other health disciplines to solve individual and community health problems. Nursing facilitates evidence-based practice, compassionate caring among its practitioners in response to emerging issues in healthcare and new discoveries and technologies in profession. Nursing practice requires personal commitment to professional development and life-long learning.

Scope of nursing and midwifery practice encompasses provision of promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative aspects of care to people across the life span in a wide variety of healthcare settings. Nursing practice is based on acquisition of knowledge, understanding, attitude, competencies and skills through the Council's curricular and practice standards. The competencies in which the students are trained will guide them in performing their scope of practice. Nursing offers qualified nurses and midwives a wealth of opportunities in the field of practice, education, management and research in India and overseas.

The undergraduate nursing program is broad based education within an academic curricular framework specifically directed to the development of critical thinking skills, competencies appropriate to human and professional values. Blended learning approach comprising of experiential learning, reflective learning, scenario based learning and simulated learning is also inbuilt. The teaching learning process encourages mastery learning, modular, self-directed and self-accountable in choice making in terms of elective courses. The program prepares its graduates to become exemplary citizens by adhering to code of ethics and professional conduct at all times in fulfilling personal, social and professional obligations so as to respond to national aspirations. Health and community orientation are provided with special emphasis on national health problems, national health programs and national health policy directives to achieve universal health care for all citizens of India. The main roles of graduates would be provider of care with beginning proficiency in delivering safe care, coordinator/manager of care by being active participant of inter-professional team and member of a profession demonstrating self-responsibility and accountability for practice as well as to support the profession.

The faculty has the responsibility to be role models and create learning environment that facilitates cultivation of critical thinking, curiosity, creativity and inquiry driven self-directed learning and attitude of life-long learning in students. Learners and educators interact in a process whereby students gain competencies required to function within their scope of practice.

II. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

AIMS

The aims of the undergraduate program are to

- a. Produce knowledgeable competent nurses and midwives with clear critical thinking skills who are caring, motivated, assertive and well-disciplined responding to the changing needs of profession, healthcare delivery system and society.
- b. Prepare them to assume responsibilities as professional, competent nurses and midwives in providing promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative healthcare services in any healthcare setting.
- c. Prepare nurses and midwives who can make independent decisions in nursing situations within the scope of practice, protect the rights of individuals and groups and conduct research in the areas of nursing practice and apply evidence- based practice.
- d. Prepare them to assume role of practitioner, teacher, supervisor and manager in all healthcare settings.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of the B.Sc. (Nursing) program, the B.Sc. (Nursing) graduates will be able to

1. Utilize critical thinking to synthesize knowledge derived from physical, biological, behavioral sciences, and humanities, in the practice of professional nursing and midwifery.
2. Practice professional nursing and midwifery competently and safely in diverse settings, utilizing caring, critical thinking and therapeutic nursing interventions with individuals, families, populations and communities at any developmental stage and with varied lived health experiences.
3. Provide promotive, preventive and restorative health services in line with national health policies and programs.
4. Integrate professional caring into practice decisions that encompass values, ethical, and moral and legal aspects of nursing.
5. Respect the dignity, worth, and uniqueness of self and others.
6. Apply concepts of leadership, autonomy and management to the practice of nursing and midwifery to enhance quality and safety in health care.

7. Utilize the latest knowledge and skills related to information and technology to enhance patient outcomes.
8. Communicate effectively with patients, peers, and all health care providers.
9. Utilize the requisite knowledge, skills and technologies to practice independently and collaboratively with all health professionals applying the principles of safety and quality improvement.
10. Integrate research findings and nursing theory in decision making in evidence-based practice.
11. Accept responsibility and accountability for the effectiveness of one's own nursing and midwifery practice and professional growth as a learner, clinician and leader.
12. Participate in the advancement of the profession to improve health care for the betterment of the global society.

2. CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION: OVERALL PLAN

Duration of the program: 8 semesters

1-7 Semesters

One Semester Plan for the first 7 Semesters

Total Weeks per Semester: 26 weeks per semester

Number of Weeks per Semester for instruction: 20 weeks (40 hours per week \times 20 weeks = 800 hours) Number of Working Days: Minimum of 100 working days (5 days per week \times 20 weeks)

Vacation, Holidays, Examination and Preparatory

Holidays: 6 weeks

Vacation: 3 weeks

Holidays: 1 week

Examination and Preparatory Holidays: 2 weeks

8th Semester

One semester: 22 weeks

Vacation: 1 week

Holidays: 1 week

Examination and Preparatory Holidays: 2 weeks