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The Importance of the Subject

The use of substances that produce dependence is a severe and worldwide health problem. Despite various measures to control substance use, it is increasing, especially in developing countries. Substance dependence is a serious public health problem in Turkey, as in the rest of the world. Substance dependence is not only a health issue; it also has public, social, legal and governmental aspects.
This map, created by Vox using data from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, shows the distribution of heroin from Afghanistan to Europe.
Drug/substance groups used by school children

Within one week (September 18-25, 2017)

In 79 provinces, 2,853 operations was performed to fight with narcotics and smuggling:

- 6,973 kg hashish
- 292 kg heroin
- 4 kg cocaine
- 23 kg synthetic cannabinoid (Benza)
- 3 kg ephedroneamphetamine
- 5,179,221 narcotic drug
- 397,345 cannabis

External image links:
- https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2017/04/05/turkey-has-a-major-drug-problem-heres-how-to-get-a-handle-on-it/
narco-terror” is a terrorist activity systematically "narcotizing" the young people in a society and Turkey has become the target of these terrorist activities.

Drug addiction is a policy element used as a means of shaping politics among countries," Turkey is under a chemical terrorist attack via synthetic drugs."

The declaration suggested that society must become aware of drug addiction and the problem should become more visible in the country’s agenda.

All kinds of media, adverts, marketing styles and tools that encourage children and young people to use drugs "must be strictly prohibited."

**National Drug Strategy**

1. preventing access to drugs;
2. taking measures in relation to educational institutions;
3. target groups;
4. anti-drug counselling units;
5. strengthening drug dependence treatment;
6. social adaptation of drug-dependent people after short- and long-term treatment;
7. scientific advisory board for anti-drug activities;
8. anti-drug decision support system;
9. legislation on anti-drug activities;
10. coordination and cooperation;
11. communication and public information;
12. diagnosis and laboratory services

**National Coordination Mechanism**

- Higher Anti-Drug Board
- Anti-Drug Board
- Anti-Drug Technical Board
- Anti-Drug Provincial Coordination Boards
Nursing in Turkey

- Nursing was first initiated in Türkiye when Florence Nightingale cared for English and Turkish soldiers during the Crimean war in 1853.
- With the Balkan war (1912) Turkish women started to work in hospitals.
- This is when professional nursing care was first introduced in Turkey.
Baccalaureate science degree programs

- Fundamentals of Nursing
- Medical Nursing
- Surgical Nursing
- Gynecology and Obstetric Nursing
- Pediatric Nursing
- Psychiatry Nursing
- Public Health Nursing
- Nursing Management
- Education in Nursing

BSN in Turkey

- BSN programmes:
  - 1955-1959: 4-year BSN program
  - 1955-1995: 10 SON
  - 2017 = 118 (Faculty of Nursing, Faculty of Health Sciences, SON)
Post graduate nursing education (for master’s degree)

In 1968, the Master of Science in Nursing Program was initiated in Turkey.

- Fundamentals of nursing
- Medical nursing
- Psychiatric Nursing
- Nursing management
- Surgical nursing
- Gynecology and obstetric nursing
- Oncological nursing
- Forensic nursing
- Pediatric nursing
- Public health nursing

- Master with thesis 120 ECTS (2 years)
  - 1 year theoretical
  - 1 year thesis
- Master without thesis 90 ECTS (2 years)
  - 1 year theoretical
  - 1 year final project

In 1972, Nursing Doctoral Education Program was initiated in Turkey.

- After MSc degree
- Combine programs

- Dissertation based on original research
- PhD degree
- 240 ECTS
- PhD 7 course / 25 national credits
Post graduate nursing education (for PhD’s degree)

- Fundamentals of nursing
- Surgery nursing
- Psychiatry Nursing
- Gynecology and obstetric nursing
- Medical nursing
- Surgical nursing
- Public health nursing

THE NATIONAL NURSING CORE EDUCATION PROGRAM

According to HUCEP (2014), the topic of addiction should be a part of the nursing curriculum.

- Have the knowledge and skills to compare types of addiction
- Assess drug and substance addiction
- Plan, implement, and evaluate nursing interventions and practices for patients with addiction

STUDIES
Although the health workers have better knowledge and attitude for preventing and decreasing the effects of smoking, they still go on smoking.

Do General Practitioners Diagnose and Treat Patients With Alcohol Use Problems?

Pre and post graduate education on alcohol use disorders is low. Most of the GPs do not know the levels of risky alcohol use, screening tools, and biochemical markers.

Factors Affecting Smoking Status of Nursing Students and Their Addiction Levels

The prevalence of smoking among the youth is high. To decrease smoking prevalence, the reasons for smoking initiation should be investigated and some precautions should be taken before the university age, and they should be continued during the university education.
Smoking and substance abuse among medical students and physicians should be taken more seriously because their own attitudes towards substances may influence their professional behavior. There is a need for better education about substances.

Educational programs and campaigns for all nurses, especially for the students of nursing and health vocational schools, which focus on the negative effects of smoking and quitting, and making changes in the curricula of health-related programs.

The study found a higher smoking prevalence compared to developed countries. Medical school curricula need to be reframed in the context of smoking cessation counseling in order to win the war against tobacco use and addiction.
All of these studies give an account in favor of offering specific knowledge concerning alcohol and drugs in formal and nonformal education by means of training, since they consider this theme as vital in nurses’ education.

National and international specialized literature has an agreement concerning the inadequate education of nursing professionals, which results in inadequate practice and in the maintenance of prejudices and moral value judgments in the care of alcohol and drug users (Pillon et al., 2003).
MATERIALS AND METHODS

A descriptive, survey research design was used in this study.

Researchers examined whether the course content of state and foundation universities that provide undergraduate nursing education in Turkey included the topic of addiction by searching the database of the Council of Higher Education (http://www.yok.gov.tr).
TOPICS OF ADDICTION AND SUBSTANCE ADDICTION IN THEIR UNDERGRADUATE NURSING CURRICULUM UNIVERSITIES IN TURKEY

1) to inform students about the dangers of alcohol, substance, and tobacco products, about quitting the use of them and enabling them to guide society as role models

2) to enable students to acquire necessary information and skills to develop the health of individuals, families, and societies by learning the basic concepts related to health and its promotion

3) to teach students about addiction, addictive substances and their effects, preventing addiction, addiction treatment, and nursing approaches

4) to teach students about substance abuse, substance abuse disorders and their effects on individual's health

5) to teach nursing students necessary nursing practices for school-age children who are abusing substances

6) to raise awareness about distinguishing and identifying drugs, substance, and Internet addiction
The topic of addiction is addressed in various courses in the nursing curriculum:

- School health
- Health promotion and protection
- Forensic nursing
- Mental health and diseases
- Emergency nursing and first aid
- Pharmacology
- Substance addiction
- Addiction and nursing

**THE TEACHING METHODS AND TECHNIQUES AT MOST OF THE UNIVERSITIES**

- Lectures
- Discussions
- Problem-solving group work
- Movie screenings
- Brainstorming, role-playing
- Self-study

**The examination of measurement methods in the course**

- Homework
- Midterm examinations
- Presentation/seminar preparation
- Final examinations
- Project preparation
- Practice, in-class study
The topic of addiction be offered as a discrete, mandatory course in the undergraduate nursing curricula of all universities.

Health professionals, nurses are direct caregivers who play a key role in planning the treatment of addicted individuals; thus, they require adequate training about addiction.

AUTHORS RECOMMEND

Thank you very much for your kind interest

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