

# Editorial: Empowerment COVID-19 Prevention during Practicum Courses among Undergraduate Nursing Students

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Since the outbreak of COVID-19, all people got effected from this crucial situation. It has had significant social impacts, such as the sudden interruption of basic education activities, due to the need for social isolation. Consequently, the faculty of nursing have been applied the policy that should be taken a long-distance learning in the theory of nursing courses to overcome this pandemic and launched online and e-learning for all students since 2020 COVID-19 emergency conversion. This intervention would like to reduce people interaction and increasing social distancing in educational institutions.

In nursing education, the Bachelor of Nursing Sciences program studied combined professional nursing theories and practices together of four-year program. The curriculum is aimed to produce quality undergraduate nurses who will meet the future divers' communities, and the social is expected a competent nursing professional who can delivery primary care services, particularly in underserved areas after graduation. Thus, after the nursing students complete their online courses, they need to practice in the real situation with the patients in the hospital or community in practicum courses. When conduct the nursing practicum courses during COVID-19 situation, the students struggle to decide to involve training because they worry about viral infection. However, nursing students decide to practice with the real situation under parent permission via parental consent forms because they do not want to

freeze in the program. Therefore, the enhance self-care practice, social responsibility and COVID-19 protection are essential activities that the organization will implement to all stakeholders especially nursing students. This editorial paper from the authors' experiences was modified empowerment processes by Gibson (1995, 1993, 1991) to enhance their significant behaviors toward the fight against the thoughtful infection.

Nowadays, people know how to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The people must maintain a safe distance from others, even if they don't appear to be sick. They should wear a surgical mask in public, especially indoors or when physical distancing is not possible. They should clean your hands often. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand rub, and get vaccinated when it's your turn (World Health Organization, 2021). Therefore, the nursing students will implement these behaviors to protect themselves when they will face with people who may be asymptomatic COVID-19 patients during a training program.

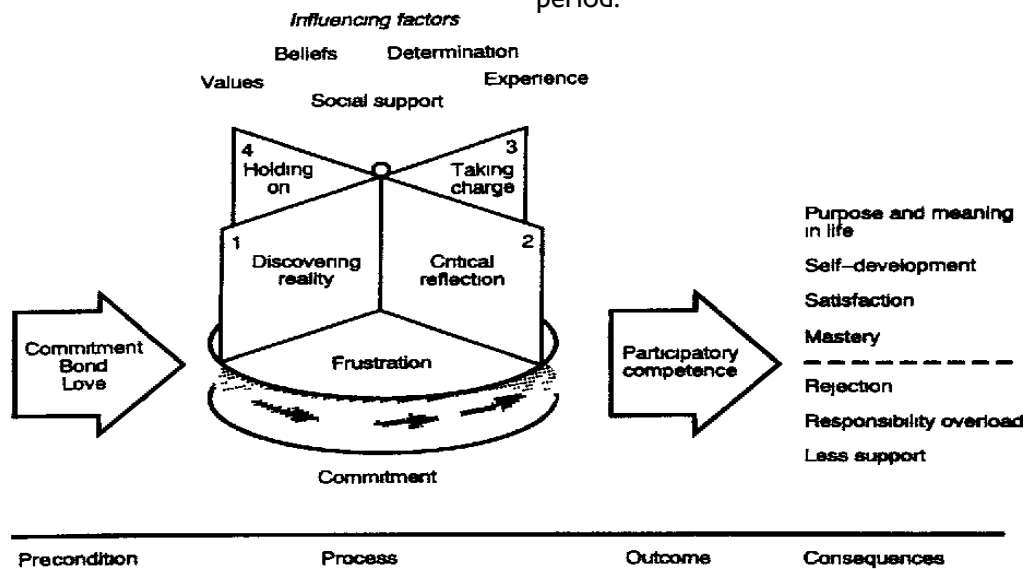
The empowerment process is based on frustration when students are facing conflict, problem, imbalance, and they will have commitment to protect themselves from COVID-19 for their beloved family members. The four steps of empowerment should be applied as follow: 1) Discovering reality, 2) Clinical reflation, 3) Taking charge, and 4) Holding on, and the empowerment process are depending on intrapersonal factor and

interpersonal factor, and the example modified strategies in empowerment were presented:

- 1) Building of awareness of prevention of health risks to infect COVID-19, and self-care and health promotion of student' health.
- 2) Creating good relationship with the students and provide techniques to enhance COVID-19 protection, self-care, and health promotion.
- 3) Conducting friendly environment and atmosphere to COVID-19.
- 4) Enhancing decision making at individual and group levels as enhancing participation of COVID-19 prevention/protection.
- 5) Using reflective questions to find commitment the issues of COVID-19.
- 6) Supporting all COVID-19 information and protection instrument and guidelines.
- 7) Connecting public health actions and the development of communication aids, such as provincial public health sector at practice areas/settings.
- 8) Promoting self-worth and recognition when students' practices COVID-19 protective behaviors well.

- 9) Providing information and knowledge of COVID-19 in individual and public levels.
- 10) Creating the COVID-19 consultant and protocol.
- 11) Motivating COVID-19 protection and self-care behaviors.
- 12) Positive reinforcement to encourage students proud of their protective COVID-19 practices.
- 13) Mentoring COVID-19 protection during training session.

Presently, people doubt the same that will be true for COVID-19, we may never know the end of this serious diseurs. Although leanings to live with COVID-19 are the shift strategies, and nursing education should prepare for life with negative consequences of serious diseases, with preliminary plan. Nurses have significant responsibilities and roles during COVID-19 pandemic, and they will continue to be at the front line of patient care in hospitals and actively involved with evaluation and monitoring in the community. The focuses of nursing organization are going forward to produce high quality novice nurses to support heath care system are the important task of nursing instructors to manage at this serious period.



Picture 1. Empowerment process by Gibson (1995)

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