

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES OF NURSING
STUDENTS TOWARD OLDER PEOPLE**

WANG XIAONAN

ID: 1001027249

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ABSTRACT

With increasing proportion of older people in worldwide, it also bring the health problems related to aging which is required nursing care. Nurses play crucial role in caring of older people. When assess the knowledge and attitudes of older people, which can reflect nurses perceive and interact with their patients and in how they provide nursing care. Nursing students as future nurse, so it is important to develop high level of aging knowledge and positive attitudes towards older people. The objectives of this study were to assess nursing students' knowledge about aging toward older people, determine nursing students' attitudes toward older people, the correlation between demographic data and nursing students' knowledge about aging and the correlation between demographic data and nursing students' attitudes toward older people. One hundred and fifty nursing students were recruited in this study. A questionnaire was including demographic questions, the Palmore's Facts on Aging Quiz 2 (FAQ2) and Kogan's Old People Scale (KOP). The results showed mean score of FAQ2 among these nursing students was 13.9. For nursing students' attitude toward older people, students scored a mean of 47.7 (SD=6.84) on the positive KOP and a mean of 53.9 (SD=7.19) on the negative (KOP). Statistically significant relationships were found in this study. Knowledge about aging has statistical significant relationship in students' age, level of years and caring for older people in students' clinical practice. On the other hand, attitudes toward older people have statistical correlated with in students' age levels of year and experience in living the older people at home. Nursing curriculum should be focus more on gerontology education, by promoting socialisation with older people and creating more supportive learning environments in the care setting of older people.