

## **Summary**

Nursing internship refers to a work period immediately following the educational program of the student. The practice experience takes place after completion of the academic program and arranged by the clinical setting. It is not only a guided experience but also a supervised work experience with gradual increase in the responsibility during internship and help the newly graduate to be a self-assured practitioner.

The aim of this study is to determine internship year problems and its effect on intern-nurses satisfaction at Benha University Hospital. Study setting included all clinical areas where intern-nurses are trained at Benha University Hospital. These areas were as follow: intensive care unit, coronary care unit, kidney dialysis units (adult, Pediatric), operating rooms (general operating, ENT, urology, orthopedic), premature unit, emergency unit (department, operating room), labor and caesarian section. The setting has also included the following departments of the Faculty of Nursing where intern-nurses supervisors work: medical-surgical nursing, pediatrics nursing, maternal and newborn health nursing and nursing service administration. The subjects contain (122) intern-nurses who succeeded in the academic year 2003-2004, (29) faculty members who are working with and responsible for supervision of the intern-nurses and (16) hospital nursing administrators working with the intern- nurses in the above-mentioned setting.

Two tools were used for data collection in the study; the first tool: internship year problems questionnaires; three questionnaire were developed to assess internship year problems according to each study subject. Each questionnaire consisted of two parts. The first part,

contained demographic data related to the each subject (age, qualification,.....). The second part contained categories related to internship year problems (internship objective, collaboration between faculty and hospital members, orientation program,.....). The second tool: intern-nurses satisfaction questionnaire to assess intern-nurses satisfaction regarding to internship year. It consisted of 75 items subdivided into nine categories: objectives of internship, orientation program, clinical setting, clinical experience, supervision, evaluation, communication, schedule and personal.

**The study has generated the following findings:**

1. The highest percentage (93.1%, 90.2% and 62.5%) of faculty members, intern-nurses and hospital nursing administrators had a problem related to gap between nursing education and nursing practice respectively.
2. The result indicated that more than half (59.0% and 55.2%) of intern-nurses and faculty members had a problem related to late start date of intern-nurses' orientation program respectively.
3. The result revealed that unavailable place for private conference and unavailable resources were the most frequently problems (76.2% & 71.3%, 79.3% & 79.3 % and 62.5% & 75.0%) by intern-nurses, faculty members and hospital nursing administrators respectively.
4. More than half (54.1%, 58.6% and 62.5%) of intern-nurses, faculty members and hospital nursing administrators referred to short duration of premature unit respectively.

5. All hospital nursing administrators, more than three quarters of intern-nurses and two thirds of faculty members and (100.0%, 76.2 % and 69.0%) had a problem regarding to sporadic evaluation respectively.
6. Regarding the intern-nurses' satisfaction; the study results indicated that more than half of intern-nurses (57.4%) were dissatisfied with internship year and the total level satisfaction (51.29%) was low. the highest level of intern-nurses satisfaction was related to schedule (60.8%) which recorded by the intern-nurses, while the lowest level of satisfaction among internship year categories was (36.5%) related to personal.
7. There was a negative correlation between internship year problems and total intern-nurses satisfaction. The more internship year problems were, the lower intern-nurses' satisfaction level was, in addition, the correlations between satisfaction and demographic characteristic indicated that there were no significant difference.

**In the light of the findings obtained from the present study, these points are recommended:**

- 1- The need to positive collaborative partnerships between faculty members and hospital nursing administrators.

- 2- Implementing a ten-minutes 'connecting time' for intern-nurses and unit staff (medical and nursing) at the start of each rotation that would be facilitate communication.
  
- 3- Orientation program should be developed for faculty members who will be involved in supervising and evaluating the intern-nurses to introduce them on the advanced technology of devices and to the skills required for supervision, training and evaluation.