OPINIONS OF NURSING TEACHERS
ON USAGE OF COMMUNITY HEALTH BAG

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**Introduction:**
Community Health Nursing is a synthesis of Nursing practice and public health practice applied in promoting and preserving the health of populations. Home visit is the backbone of Community health Nursing, during home visit the nurses use Traditional Community Health bag. A Public Health Bag or Community Health Bag is an essential and indispensable equipment of the public health nurse, which he/she has to carry along when he/she goes out for home visiting. It contains basic medications and articles, which are necessary for giving care. *Journal of American Nurses Association, Page 1965.*

Students have problems regarding the Bag Technique, this is mainly because limited use of the community health bag in the field by themselves or even the healthcare worker working in the community. Secondly the bag is used only for return demonstration or during the examination. The attitude of the students toward the bag is very negative and they are tiresome to use the bag during the community posting. *Sitzman, K. Pett, M., Bloswick, D. 2002*

**Methods of Data Collection:**
Exploratory Descriptive Study design was used. Sample size was 56 and the sampling technique used is Non Probability Purposive Sampling. Tool consisted of Opinionnaire including General Questionnaire about demographic data, Multiple Choice Questions, Likert’s scale, Checklist and Urine sugar Procedure completion sheet was used to assess the opinion of the Post Graduate Teachers of Community Health Nursing. Tool was given by hand whenever possible and also by other means like email, Speed Posts and Couriers. Data collected was analyzed with percentile frequency.

**Result:**
- All samples revealed that articles such as Iron and Folic acid, Paracetamol tablets must be kept in the community health bag.
- 98.2% of the samples think that adhesive plaster, stethoscope, Multivitamin tablets, and tape measure should be kept in the community health bag.
- 58.9% of the samples rejected to keep mackintosh in the community health bag, 41.6% wanted it to be placed in the community health bag.
Similarly 51.6% and 53.6 % think that Mucous sucker and Disposable delivery kit should not be placed in the community health bag.

According to 91.1% of them were using community health bag for their students because it was a part of Curriculum and student must develop skills in using CHN bag.

Similarly 51.6% and 53.6 % think that Mucous sucker and Disposable delivery kit should not be placed in the community health bag. Most of the samples suggested to place advance articles in the community health bag.

71.4% of the samples expressed that spirit lamp, match box and nail cutter should be kept in the bag and 28.1% think that it should not be kept.

Similarly 71.4 % of the samples disagreed to keep the complete set of Enema in the community health bag and only 28.1% agreed to keep it in the bag.

On the other hand 71.4% of the samples showed their dislike in keeping Urethral catheters in the bag while 35.7% are willing to keep them in the community health bag.

About the bag technique and procedure evaluation, 83 % samples focused on greeting the family or maintaining IPR or preparing the clients unit before the procedure.

75% samples think that placing bag on elevated and safe place is important and it should be placed on the paper.

91% samples suggest that hand washing must be done before and after the procedure.

87.5% of the samples suggested that use of Urostick should be done to perform urine sugar testing, while 41 % samples suggested that Benedict’s solution can be used. 15% samples didn't suggested any method for testing urine for sugar.

Research findings reveal that community health bag should be made up of Rexin as suggested by 78.5% (44) of the samples.

More than 90% of the samples gave opinion that disposable delivery kit, complete set of enema and urethral catheters should not be placed in the community bag.

Moreover regarding the suggestions of any other articles in the community health bag, samples indicate that articles such as Glucometer, Urosticks, Snellen’s chart, hammer, advanced assessing tools like, digital B.P. apparatus and thermometer also were suggested.

Opinion about the material to be used for Bag was pointing towards using Rexin, as it is easily washable and durable as well as its strength to withstand in erect position during the procedure. Most of the samples think that Community Health Bag should be student friendly.

Association with Demographic variables.

ANOVA test revealed, that there is significant association between the variable like

- Designation,
- Number of courses
Intake capacity of the students in the institutions on the usage of the community health bag as the value is less 0.05.

**Conclusion**

Above study revealed various facts about the community health bag and its usefulness in the current era of advancement in the medical field. It also provided us with the evidence to recommend and apply the findings of the study. Community health bag should have all the articles in the bag which are useful and efficient in the particular geographical area. Domiciliary care provided by the home visiting nurses should be with accurate assessment tools that will yield accurate results for prompt care and referrals.

**References**

**Books**


**Web access**


**Journals**