

# History of Male Nursing

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## **Abstract:**

**Objectives:** The aim of this paper is to provide detailed review of literature related to historiography of male nursing.

**Methodology:** The literature review was compiled by collecting data from 25 updated articles that published between January 2015 to August 2020.

**Results:** Among the included studies, 60% extent of females and 40% extent of male nurses was established. The data researched revealed that about 31% female nursing understudies agreed that the enlistment of male nursing understudies will help update the idea of nursing profession and 7% included that it will in like manner help decline the negative image of the nursing livelihood.

**Conclusion:** Nursing is as yet a female-overwhelmed profession and this concept makes issues for men who are keen on this profession. Care is a core of nursing principle and nurses of both genders show care towards their patients differently.

**Key Words:** Male nurses, Nursing profession, History of nurses.

## **1. INTRODUCTION:**

The proportion of male nurse is approximately 10% or less of the total population of nurses in most advanced countries. Male nurses ratio in Ireland is probably 7.8% of the total number of nurses, in the United Kingdom is 10.7%, in wider European Union state male nurses range from 2% - 15% & in the United States is 9.1%. The nursing commissioners should arrange meetings to introduce nursing profession as a masculinities instead of femininity to eradicate gender bias<sup>[1]</sup>. The historiography of nursing profession in early ages states only the role of female but males at that time also took part in providing efficient healthcare to patients. Stereotypes and gender bias that male nurse experience still permeates society today that indicate relatively minimal growth in the percentage of males choosing nursing as a career<sup>[2]</sup>.

The Army Nurse Corp and the Navy Nurse Corp of the United States crosshatched qualified male nurses from serving their country in 1901 and 1908. In 1960s, only 25 out of 170 (14.7%) of diploma-granting SON in Canada accepted male applicants. In the Canadian Armed Forces, it is notable that the first male nurse finally arrogates his rightful commission and salary as an officer occurred in 1970 after long struggles for gender equality. It is significant that the first male nurse in the province of Québec, Canada achieve licensed as a registered nurse in December, 1969. In China, there are 2.18 million total nurses out of which only 21,000 (1%) are males. Total numbers of registered nurses in Canada are 270,724 out of which 252,763 (93.4%) are women and only 17,961 (6.6%) are men<sup>[3,4]</sup>.

In eighth century, Islamic hospitals such as Cairo and Baghdad employed both male and female nurses. Hussein said Rufaida- Al-Aslamiya is known as first nurse in Islam. He described that Rufaida started the first nursing school in Arabia and demonstrated the first code of ethics for nurses almost 12 centuries before Florence Nightingale. Now, there were almost 12,000 nurses employed by the government of Kuwait, out of which fewer than 10% were Kuwaiti, approximately one third were Muslim and one quarter were men<sup>[5]</sup>. Literature review revealed that according to 1600-1800s policies male can provides care for male patients. In 1808 Sanantonio hospital appoints only males for nursing as a career. During 1890-early 1900s according to policy of Florence Nightingale nursing schools opened for males for specific departments such as urology or mental health etc. The main gathering of the National Council of Trained male Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland was held in London in 1900. In 1963, only 1% males choose nursing as a career. At the beginning of 2000s numbers of male nursing are increasing that is still continue still now<sup>[6]</sup>.

It was believed that male nurses belong to low socio-economic status, no need of training, less qualification and having sufficient salary packages. The main nursing school on the planet opened in India and was solely devoted to preparing just men. The American Civil War (1861-1865) had numerous men who served in the nursing role, the most well-known being the writer Walt Whitman. Ladies were not permitted to go to on the grounds that they were thought

of as less unadulterated. In early years, there are few nursing institutions are available in Pakistan such as JPMC SON, Karachi and Myo Hospital SON, Lahore. Male nursing initiated in Pakistan between 1981 – 1990 at LNHSON, Karachi. In Pakistan, acceptance of male nurses in different positions such as nursing manager, clinical nurse specialist, IT nurse, ICN, researcher held during 2001-2010. The current situation of Pakistan regarding nursing profession is quite worse. Nurse patient ratio in Pakistan is 1:313 and nurse per bed ratio is 1:8 [7].

The terms “matron” and “ward sister” reflects that people believed that men become nurses only when they are failed to become physicians. The self-image of male nurses has changed and promoted throughout the history within the last 50 years. Though the nursing profession has made notable progress but unfortunately male nurses still face remarkable challenges [8,9].

Male nursing is a serving profession that adds the monetary worth to the nursing profession. There is curtailment of literature that represents several internal and external issues that are faced by male nurses may also impact on their willingness to compliment a nursing career. Male nurses have twice ability to hold a serving key management position than female nurses instead of it numbers of male nurses are lower as compared to female nurses. Male nurses are assertive that they have some feminine characteristics which capacitate them to undertake essential nursing activities. The impact of men in thinking about the debilitated and harmed has been reported all through mankind's history. The monetary values and interests of men are not reflected to the nursing profession. Antiquarians recognize that the early history of men as nurses is befuddling and clashing. Male nursing is considered poor career for males due to sufficient salary package instead of their earning capacities [10].

Literature revealed that Pakistani society gives less respect to male nursing; people do misbehave and bully nursing staff on minor issues [11]. A key procedure to address this looming workforce deficiency is to improve the enlistment of men into nursing. Some challenges are faced by nurses throughout their career such as gender discrimination, negative in the media, marital issues, role strained lack of support, dissatisfaction in the educational and practice environment, religious identity, handmaidens to doctors and tools of emotional gratification for the public has had negative impact for the nursing profession due to which men quit this profession. Females are trying to fabricate a friendly environment to acquiescent men for entering in nursing profession [12].

There is an essential need to improve public image related to male nursing which directly influence men’s self-image and self-esteem. Public opinions regarding male nursing image is badly affected by media portrayals. Public media opinion may enhance or damage the reputation of male nursing which can impinge the appeal of male nursing. Gender integration in world enhance acceptance of male nurses, reduce gender gaps and improve quality of healthcare and highlighting the problems of recruitment and retention in nursing profession. During the colonial era people believed that male nurses are a separate category of workers which became part of the Indian health system. Various components such as gender, class, caste, religion and western ideas have shaped the type of male nursing services prevalent in India. Male nurses have experienced more job stress and difference in the area of job than female nurses. Distinct continuing educational programs that are suitable for male nurses should be developed and implemented [13,14]

The aim of this paper is to provide detailed review of literature related to historiography of male nursing in order to increase the future recruitment of men into nursing.

## 2. METHODOLOGY:

I systematically searched different digital databases such as PubMed, Medline, Google scholar, World Health Organization (WHO) website etc. The literature review yielded by the selected articles from 2015 to 2020, which particularly helped to estimate history of male nursing. The watchwords utilized in the logical article choice cycle are historiography of male nursing, male medical caretaker stress, male nurse experience, challenges of male nurse, recruitment of men into the nursing profession, Factors that influence men to choose nursing profession etc.

Keywords	Data-bases	Search-results	Chosen by title	Chosen by abstract	Selected Articles
Brief history of male nursing	Google scholar	22	13	9	7
Challenges for male nurses	PubMed	18	9	9	6
Early experiences of male nurses	Research gate	11	6	5	7
Recruitment of men into the nursing profession	Medline	9	4	5	5

Articles were chosen in this literature review by following foreordained inclusion/exclusion criteria.

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
Publication in English language	All others languages
Male nurses	Female nurses
Full text	Other issues than male nurses
Date of publication is between 2015-2020	Before 2015
Literature review articles Review articles	Original research articles Letters, auditorials

### 3. RESULTS:

A systematic review yielded by 60 potentially relevant literature review articles and after evacuating duplicated articles (n=9) and those that did not meet the inclusion criteria of this review (n=7) and a total of 25 were agreed upon for this systematic review. Among the included studies, 60% proportion of females and 40% proportion of male nurses was founded. The information investigated uncovered that about 31% female nursing understudies concurred that the enrollment of male nursing understudies will help upgrade the nature of nursing profession and 7% featured that it will likewise help decrease the negative picture of the nursing vocation. On the other hand 48% male nursing understudies apparent that they could assist with expanding the nature of nursing profession and 30% male nursing understudies apparent that they could diminish the negative picture of the health team about the nursing profession.

### 4. DISCUSSION:

This literature review revealed that by and large "being a male" can be one serious challenge, as nursing is being generalized to coordinate Florence Nightingale's vision to be a "white middleclass female job. Ladies and men face all things considered a lot of viciousness behavior as nursing professionals. Patients or their family members some of the time get too intensely included genuinely and unreasonable choices are made which of might badly affect nurses working ability. While men are more inclined to confront vicious episodes, ladies experience the ill effects of inappropriate behavior more than men. Despite the fact that stress factors in nursing are one aspect of the occupation on the grounds that occasionally there is one's life in question, the board ought to urge their staff to be more open and discussion about the unpleasant occasions. These issues may prompt seclusion in a working environment and is accepted to be perhaps the greatest stressor for men in nursing profession [15-17].

The scope and status of nursing has changed since the days of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. The nurses who were recorded as part of the Memories of Nursing project often practiced before the full professionalization of nursing took place, training in an apprenticeship model with little power or reward. However they often remember the standards of care at the time with pride, the responsibility they were afforded with acceptance and their rich, varied experiences with fondness. The transition taken place in nursing perhaps has not all been positive and the need for caring, compassionate and competent nurses remains as important today as ever [18-20].

In the wake of auditing the accessible literature, it can be inferred that despite the fact that men have been working in the calling for a long time, there are potential boundaries for men considering a vocation in the nursing calling. The emphasis on the occupation of nursing as a lifelong needs more noteworthy turn of events, with emphasis on the trait of sex neutrality. Nursing association and nursing instruction programs can help enrollment exertion by testing cultural generalizations of gentility and manliness and by progressing the concept of impartiality. On the off chance that nursing is to become more diverse and address the issue of the evolving populace, it is up to the calling to create approaches to urge more men to think about a profession in nursing. Nursing schools also need to turn out to be more tenacious in their endeavors to counteract sexual orientation inclination and enlist more men [21-23].

There is an absence of thoroughly explored and detailed mediations planned for extending interest into nursing for Black, Asian and minority ethnic men. We don't have the foggiest idea about the viability of any intercessions focused on this gathering, as they have not been fittingly assessed. This audit is helpful for strategy creators, the individuals who commission intercessions around workforce assorted variety and medical caretaker enrollment. This audit proposes that future extending support intercessions ought to be properly focused on, executed and assessed so others can expand on very much confirmed great practice [24].

An audit of the writing and assessment of flow nursing research has uncovered that cliché view of male medical attendants and gender barriers to rehearse keep on penetrating inside society and the instructive domain. The connections between nurture teachers and male nursing understudies are an unmistakable component of the clinical part of the nursing educational program. Consequently, we as male nurses' instructors are in a prime situation to become instrumental change operators by perceiving our own inclinations through self-reflection, mindfulness, and looking for

discourse with male nursing understudies to grasp assorted variety and consideration inside the nursing educational program <sup>[25]</sup>.

It is indispensable to consider why no separation was made between the male gatherings dependent on ethnic or social foundation considering the way that it has been all around recorded in the writing that the convictions, mentalities and practices of Black individuals in social, mental, financial, political and instructive settings will in general contrast tremendously than that of White individuals.

This literature review shows the proceeded requirement for advancing equivalent acknowledgment of male nurses in the clinical setting. The ladylike picture of a medical caretaker in the public eye is a noteworthy obstruction keeping men from picking nursing as a calling. Thusly; I might want to grow this point by investigating male nursing understudies' encounters in nursing school and clinical settings. The results can be utilized to advance familiarity with issues male medical caretakers usually face.

## 5. CONCLUSION:

The historiography of nursing profession in early ages states only the role of female but males at that time also took part in providing efficient healthcare to patients. Stereotypes and gender bias that male nurse experience still permeates society today that indicate relatively minimal growth in the percentage of males choosing nursing as a career. These are just a portion of the difficult and interconnected issues which may at present go about as obstructions to men turning out to be attendants. In Victorian occasions Florence Nightingale was ostensibly instrumental in gendering the nursing calling to the avoidance of men who generally went about as carers in the open arena yet especially in struggle zones. Be that as it may, the monetary also, social emergency after the Second World War drove the administration of the day to authorize enactment and approaches to empower men to enter the nursing register on equivalent footing with ladies. While men make up near half of the worldwide populace, they speak to just 10% of the nursing workforce internationally. This efficient audit blended examination combination analyzed the mental develops that impact men's view of nursing, so as to distinguish those viewpoints that decide a male's thought of nursing as a profession.

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