

ALJENTERA, E. (2012). Preparedness, problems, and coping behaviors of Lorma College of Nursing affiliates at the National Center for Mental Health. Lorma Colleges, City of San Fernando, La Union

Keywords : *Preparedness, problems, coping, behaviors, psychiatric exposure*

Abstract

This study aimed to determine the level of preparedness of Lorma Colleges of nursing affiliates in their psychiatric nursing affiliation, problems they have encountered and the coping mechanisms they employ.

The descriptive survey method with the use of a written as the main data gathering tool. The study involved 620 nursing students who were done with their psychiatric nursing affiliation as the National Center for Mental Health as respondents. Tools utilized to analyze and interpret data gathered were frequency counts, percentages and ranking.

Findings of the study revealed that nursing affiliates were very much prepared for the psychiatric exposure along their physical, mental, emotional, social, and financial aspects. According to the degree of seriousness, the problems encountered along housing, transportation, time management, safety and security and interpersonal relationships were regarded as serious. The most common coping mechanisms employed by the respondents were displacement, intellectualization and altruism.

In the light of the above findings, it is recommended that the following measures proposed by the researcher be considered for the improvement of the preparation of nursing affiliates in the National Center for Mental Health. Similar studies in other schools in different regions should be conducted in order to provide a baseline for a more comprehensive and orderly program for their psychiatric nursing exposure.