

THE ROLE OF THE NURSING COMMITTEE ON NURSE PROFESSIONALISM IN PROVIDING NURSING CARE AT ALIMUDDIN UMAR REGIONAL GENERAL HOSPITAL IN 2025

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ABSTRACT

Nurse professionalism is a fundamental component in improving the quality of healthcare services in hospitals. The Nursing Committee plays a strategic role in maintaining professional standards, credentialing, supervision, and ethical guidance in nursing practice. Strengthening the function of the Nursing Committee is expected to enhance nurse professionalism in delivering comprehensive and quality nursing care. This study aimed to analyse the role of the Nursing Committee on nurse professionalism in providing nursing care at Alimuddin Umar Regional General Hospital in 2025. This quantitative analytic study used a cross-sectional design. The research was conducted at Alimuddin Umar Regional General Hospital in 2025. The population consisted of nurses working in inpatient and related units. Samples were selected based on inclusion criteria using an appropriate sampling technique. The independent variable was the role of the Nursing Committee, while the dependent variable was nurse professionalism in providing nursing care. Data were collected using structured questionnaires and analysed through univariate, bivariate (chi-square test), and multivariate logistic regression analyses with a significance level of $p < 0.05$. The majority of respondents perceived that the Nursing Committee performed its role effectively. Most nurses demonstrated good professionalism in providing nursing care. Bivariate analysis showed a significant association between the role of the Nursing Committee and nurse professionalism ($p < 0.05$). Multivariate analysis indicated that the effective role of the Nursing Committee significantly influenced nurse professionalism. The role of the Nursing Committee is significantly associated with nurse professionalism in providing nursing care. Strengthening the committee's functions in supervision, credentialing, evaluation, and professional development is essential to enhance nursing service quality.

Keywords: hospital management; nursing care; nursing committee; nurse professionalism; professional standards

INTRODUCTION

Nurse professionalism is a fundamental pillar in ensuring the quality and safety of healthcare services in hospitals. Nurses represent the largest workforce in healthcare institutions and maintain continuous contact with patients for twenty-four hours a day. Their performance directly influences patient outcomes, satisfaction, safety indicators, and overall hospital reputation. According to the World Health Organization, strengthening the nursing workforce is essential to achieving universal health coverage and improving quality of care worldwide. Professional nurses are expected to demonstrate competence, ethical integrity, accountability, effective communication, and adherence to evidence-based practice.

Professionalism in nursing is not limited to clinical skills alone. It encompasses responsibility, discipline, commitment to standards, collaboration with multidisciplinary teams, and compliance with professional regulations. In Indonesia, nursing practice is regulated and supervised under policies established by the Kementerian Kesehatan Republik Indonesia, which emphasise competency standards, credentialing processes, and continuous professional development.

Hospitals are required to establish internal governance mechanisms to ensure that nursing services align with national regulations and accreditation standards.

One of the key governance structures within hospitals is the Nursing Committee. The Nursing Committee functions as a professional body responsible for credentialing, privileging, competency evaluation, ethical oversight, and supervision of nursing practice. Its role is strategic because it ensures that every nurse delivering care meets established professional standards. Through systematic assessment and monitoring, the committee helps maintain quality assurance in nursing services.

The existence of a Nursing Committee also reflects the implementation of clinical governance in hospital management. Clinical governance aims to create a framework through which healthcare organisations are accountable for continuously improving service quality and safeguarding high standards of care. In this context, the Nursing Committee serves as a regulatory and advisory body that bridges hospital management and nursing professionals.

Professional nursing care involves a systematic process consisting of assessment, nursing diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation. When professionalism is strong, nurses perform these steps accurately and consistently, reducing the risk of medical errors and improving patient safety outcomes. Conversely, weak oversight and lack of structured professional evaluation may lead to inconsistent practice, decreased accountability, and potential patient harm.

At Alimuddin Umar Regional General Hospital, maintaining high standards of nursing professionalism is essential to ensure quality healthcare delivery. As a regional public hospital serving the community of West Lampung, the institution must continuously evaluate its internal professional governance mechanisms. Understanding the relationship between the role of the Nursing Committee and nurse professionalism is therefore crucial to strengthening institutional quality improvement strategies. This study aimed to analyse the role of the Nursing Committee on nurse professionalism in providing nursing care at Alimuddin Umar Regional General Hospital in 2025.

METHOD

This study employed a quantitative analytic observational design with a cross-sectional approach. The research was conducted in 2025 at Alimuddin Umar Regional General Hospital. The study population consisted of nurses actively working in inpatient and related service units during the study period. Samples were selected according to inclusion criteria, such as being registered nurses, actively providing nursing care, and willing to participate. Data were collected using structured and validated questionnaires measuring the perceived role of the Nursing Committee and nurse professionalism in providing nursing care. The independent variable was the role of the Nursing Committee, including supervision, credentialing, evaluation, and professional development. The dependent variable was nurse professionalism, measured through indicators such as compliance with standards, accountability, ethical practice, and quality of nursing care. Univariate analysis was conducted to describe respondent characteristics and variable distributions. Bivariate analysis using the chi-square test was applied to determine the association between variables. Multivariate logistic regression analysis was used to identify the strength of influence, with a significance level set at $p < 0.05$. Ethical approval was obtained prior to data collection, and informed consent was secured in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The majority of respondents perceived that the Nursing Committee performed its functions effectively, particularly in supervision and evaluation of nursing practices. Most nurses demonstrated good professionalism in delivering nursing care, including adherence to standard operating procedures and ethical principles. Bivariate analysis revealed a statistically significant association between the role of the Nursing Committee and nurse professionalism ($p < 0.05$). Nurses who perceived the Nursing Committee as functioning effectively were more likely to demonstrate high professionalism in providing nursing care. Multivariate analysis further confirmed that the role of the Nursing Committee significantly influenced nurse professionalism, indicating that institutional governance mechanisms play a crucial role in shaping professional behaviour.

This study found a significant association between the role of the Nursing Committee and nurse professionalism in providing nursing care. The findings suggest that institutional governance mechanisms play a crucial role in shaping professional behaviour among nurses. Professionalism in healthcare settings does not develop solely from individual motivation; rather, it is influenced by organisational structure, supervision systems, leadership support, and regulatory frameworks. The Nursing Committee acts as a cornerstone of professional nursing governance within hospitals. Through credentialing and privileging processes, the committee ensures that nurses possess verified competencies before being authorised to perform specific clinical procedures. This system enhances accountability and reduces the likelihood of unsafe practice. When nurses perceive that credentialing and evaluation processes are conducted fairly and consistently, they are more likely to adhere to professional standards.

The significant relationship identified in this study indicates that effective committee performance strengthens professional discipline and compliance with standard operating procedures. Nurses working in environments with strong professional oversight may feel greater responsibility to maintain competence, improve skills, and adhere to ethical codes. This supports the concept of organisational accountability, where structured supervision contributes to improved behavioural outcomes. Supervision and evaluation mechanisms implemented by the Nursing Committee also encourage reflective practice. When performance assessments and peer reviews are conducted regularly, nurses receive constructive feedback that supports professional growth. Continuous professional development programs facilitated or recommended by the committee can enhance clinical competence and confidence in delivering care. Professionalism in nursing care delivery includes adherence to documentation standards, accurate implementation of nursing interventions, ethical patient communication, and commitment to patient safety protocols. The findings of this study imply that institutional reinforcement through committee oversight positively influences these aspects of practice.

Furthermore, the presence of an active Nursing Committee may foster a culture of professionalism within the hospital. Organisational culture significantly influences staff behaviour. When professionalism is embedded in policies, supervision systems, and evaluation criteria, nurses are more likely to internalise these standards as part of their daily practice. This aligns with the broader concept of clinical governance, which emphasises continuous quality improvement through structured accountability mechanisms.

Another important implication of this study is the need for strengthening committee functions beyond administrative responsibilities. The Nursing Committee should actively engage in

mentoring, professional coaching, and competency mapping to identify training needs. Enhancing communication between management and nursing staff may also reinforce mutual understanding of professional expectations. Although this study demonstrates a significant association, professionalism is multifactorial and may also be influenced by leadership style, workload, organisational climate, motivation, and reward systems. However, the findings highlight that the Nursing Committee plays a foundational regulatory role that supports professional practice.

From a managerial perspective, strengthening the Nursing Committee's authority and operational effectiveness can contribute to sustainable improvements in nursing service quality. Hospital management should ensure that the committee operates independently, transparently, and systematically in conducting credentialing, evaluation, and disciplinary processes. Overall, the findings reinforce the importance of structured professional governance in healthcare institutions. By strengthening the role of the Nursing Committee, hospitals can enhance nurse professionalism, improve patient safety, and maintain high standards of nursing care delivery.

CONCLUSION

This study concludes that there is a statistically significant relationship between the role of the Nursing Committee and nurse professionalism in providing nursing care at Alimuddin Umar Regional General Hospital in 2025. Nurses who perceived the Nursing Committee as functioning effectively particularly in supervision, credentialing, evaluation, and professional development demonstrated higher levels of professionalism in delivering nursing care. In conclusion, reinforcing professional governance through an active and well-functioning Nursing Committee is essential to sustaining nurse professionalism, improving patient safety, and ensuring high-quality nursing services within hospital settings.

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