Professional Nursing Value and Career Identity among Nurse Interns

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Abstract

Background: Professional nursing value and career identity are integral aspects of nurse interns' development and growth within the nursing. Professional nursing values refer to the beliefs and principles that guide the practice of nursing, including altruism, autonomy, human dignity, integrity, and social justice. These values are integral to the development of a nurse intern's career identity .**Aim of the study:** assess professional nursing value and career identity among nurse interns. **Subjects and Methods: Research design:** A descriptive research design was adopted to carry out this study. **Setting:** The present study was conducted at Zagazig University Hospitals. **Sample:** proportionate Stratified random sample was selected from nurse interns (n= 244). **Tool of data collection:** Two tools were used for collecting data: Professional Nursing Value Scale and My Vocational Situation Scale MVSS **Results:** 41.8% of studied nurse interns had a high level of professional nursing value and 57.8%of them had a moderate level of career identity. **Conclusion:** There is statistical significant correlation between professional nursing value and career identity .**Recommendation:** Design a continuously training program for nurse interns to improve their professional values perception and health care facilities should encourage nurse-interns to attend continuing education in the form of workshops and conference related to career identity.

Keywords: Professional nursing value, Career identity, Nurse interns

Introduction

Nursing interns are bachelor nursing college students who have started the role transition from student's role to practitioner nurse via involvement in the intern -ship training program. One of the mechanisms utilized and applied to assist new graduate nurses in the clinical setting is the internship program, which is available by most hospitals in different formats. The transition process from student to expert nurse is a worrying journey due to the recent proliferation in the newly graduated nurse's duties, responsibilities, and legal accountability **(Aljohni et al., 2023).**

Nurse interns need to act in accordance with professional values beyond their personal values when giving healthcare to patients, advocating professional behavior and attitudes, explaining their justifications. In addition to being valued by an occupational group, professional values are key to the career identity of the nursing practice and constitute a basis for the professionalization of the nursing profession **(Ciftci et al., 2020)**. It is critical for nurse interns to internalize professional values in order to develop and sustain a career identity in a time of increasing ethical dilemmas. **(Kaya&Dalgiç, 2021).**

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Nursing values are the principles and standards that nurse interns follow to ensure they're doing ethical, quality work. Many nurse interns and nursing organizations share values with a commitment to respecting their patients and providing excellent comfort, support and treatment through every area of healthcare. Nurse interns who share these values with their healthcare team may work together more effectively to care for their patients **(Gassas&Salem, 2023).**

Value can be defined as goals and beliefs that establish a behavior and provide a basis for decision making .In a profession, values are standards for action that are preferred by experts and professional groups and establish frameworks for evaluating behavior **(Kaya& Boz, 2018).**

Professional nursing values are the guiding beliefs and principles that influence one's work behavior. These values are usually an extension of one's personal values such as honesty, responsibility, integrity and are unique to each person based on one's family, culture, environment, religion, and ethnicity **(Poorchangizi et al., 2019)**.

Professional values play a crucial role in nursing and healthcare in which contribute to improved patient care, ethical decision-making, trust-building, positive work environments, and ongoing professional development. By upholding these values, nurse interns and other healthcare providers can uphold the highest standards of practice and contribute to positive health outcomes for individuals and communities **(Subashini, 2020).**

Additionally, some of professional nursing values important to the nursing that include human dignity , integrity, altruism , social justice, diversity, ingenuity, compassion ,trustworthiness, accountability , precision , empathy, professionalism, loyalty and excellence **(Lovett, 2019).**

Further, professional nursing values shape a nurse interns' career identity by guiding their actions, decisions, and interactions in the workplace. When nurse interns uphold these values, they not only enhance the quality of care they provide but also strengthen their career identity as dedicated, compassionate, and ethical practitioners. Also nursing values provide a sense of purpose and meaning to the work nurse interns do. When they align their personal values with the core values of the

profession, they develop a strong sense of identity as a nurse and are more likely to feel connected to their chosen career path **(Poorchangizi et al., 2019)**.

Career identity is an important developmental marker for nurse interns' well-being and success in life .It affect their transition from student nursing to professional nursing and their willingness to remain in the nursing profession. As nurse interns enter the field of nursing, their career identity serves as the foundation of their nursing practice and affects their entire career **(Godfrey & Young, 2020).**

Identity in nursing defined as the development of an internal representation of people–environment interactions in the exploration of human responses to actual or potential health problems, which evolves throughout professional nurses' careers. Also it refers to one's understanding and conceptualization of oneself, and has far-reaching impacts on individuals' lives because of its influence on cognition and behavior **(Godfrey & Young, 2020).**

Career is defined as progress throughout an individual's professional life, which is developed by selecting positions that contribute to professional goals .It is the progress and actions taken by a person throughout a lifetime **(Fitzgerald,2020).**

Career identity refers to nurses' recognition of the positive meaning and value of the nursing profession, as well as their affirmation of professional abilities and alignment of their professional aspirations with public expectations of the profession **(Zhou et al., 2019).** Additionally, career identity is a nurse's positive assessment of the nursing profession, which is an intrinsic factor that promotes career development and directly influences their work attitude and willingness to leave the profession. Career identity is the psychological basis for motivating new nurses to work hard in order to complete their jobs and achieve organizational goals **(Fitzgerald&Clukey, 2021).**

Process of career identity is nurse interns' journey in discovering and defining their career aspirations, interests, values, and goals, it is not linear and can take time. It requires continuous self-reflection, exploration, and adaptation to find a fulfilling and meaningful career path. It include eight steps self-reflection, researching career options, seeking guidance, gaining experience, skill development,

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networking, evaluating and adjusting, making informed decisions **(Toubassi et al., 2023).**

Career identity has various important for nurse interns as Professional growth and direction, having a strong career identity instills confidence in nurse interns, Enhanced job satisfaction, nurse interns have the opportunity to shape their professional identities during their internship period. Building a strong career identity early on ensures a solid foundation for future growth and helps nurse interns establish professional values, ethics, and behaviors **(Hanum et al., 2023).**

Significance of the study:
Professional nursing value and career identity among nurse interns are vitals in promoting nurse interns' professional growth and development. It equips them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and values to provide high-quality care, navigate complex situations, and lead fulfilling and successful careers in nursing **(Panda, 2021).**
A lack of career identity clarity and professional nursing value have been found to have a significant impact on a profession's perceived value and on nurse interns' confidence in advocating for their professional opinions. These difficulties also influence in their confidence to instill appropriate professional knowledge, values Further, can lead to larger issues within a profession in which practice become less paradigm-specific and increasingly focused on roles that 'fill gaps' of other profession **(Sundberg , 2017).**, So the aim of study is to assess professional nursing value and career identity among nurse interns.

Aim of the study:
The aim of the study was:
To assess professional nursing value and career identity among nurse interns.

Research Questions:
- What is the level of professional nursing value among nurse interns?
- What is the level of nurse intern's perception about their career identity?
- Is there a relationship between professional nursing value and career identity of nurse interns?

Subjects and methods:
Research design:
A descriptive correlational research design was used to achieve the aim of this study.

Study setting:
The present study was conducted at Zagazig University Hospitals, Al-sharqia Governorate , Egypt, which include two sectors, namely; the Emergency sector includes four hospitals and El-Salam sector includes two Hospitals **.**

Study subjects:
A proportionate stratified random sample was taken from nurse interns from the academic year 2022\2023.

Tools of data collection:
Two tools were used to collect necessary data.
Tool: Professional nursing value scale.
It consists of two parts as follows:
Part I: **Personal characteristics sheet for nurse interns** to collect data about their age, gender, place of residence, marital status, and enrollment in college is considered a basic desire, hospital name.
Part II: it was developed by **Yeun et al., (2005)** to measure professional nursing value level. It consists of (29) items grouped under five domains namely: Self-concept of the profession (nine items), Social awareness (8 items), professionalism of nursing (5 items), The roles of nursing service (4 items), and originality of nursing (3 items).The response to the instrument allocated on five point likert scale ranged from (1) not at all- to (5) very much.

Scoring system:
The nurses interns' responses to the instrument were measured on a five-point Likert scale ranged from (1) not at all- to (5) very much. Total score was extended from (29 to 145) ,which considered the summation of nurses interns' responses on the present scale. The nurse interns' score was considered a high professional nursing value if it was > (75%), a moderate professional nursing value if it was from (50%)- <(75%) and a low professional nursing value if it was < (50%). The tool was tested for its reliability and Cronbach's Alpha was 0.956 **(Pimentel, 2010).**

Tool II: My Vocational Situation Scale MVSS.
Was developed by **Holland, Daiger, et al (1980)** to measures the level of nurse intern's perception about their career identity. It consists of (18 items) e.g: I

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need reassurance that I have made the right choice of occupation, I am uncertain about the occupations I could perform well.

Scoring system:

The nurse interns' responses to the scale were measured on a five-point Likert scale ranged from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5), while there were 8 items consider as reverse questions (3 , 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18) , as they scored from (1) strongly agree to (5) strongly disagree respectively . The total score of the scale was ranged from (18 to 90). The nurse interns' score was considered a high career identity level if it was > (75%), a moderate career identity level if it was from (50%)- <(75%) and a low career identity level if it was < (50%).The tool was tested for its reliability and Cronbach's Alpha was 0.871**(Pimentel, 2010).**

Content validity& Reliability:

   The questionnaire was translated into Arabic; and then content and face validity were established by a panel of five experts at the Faculty of Nursing, Zagazig University. Experts were requested to express their opinions and comments on the tool and provide any suggestions for any additions or omissions of items. According to their opinions, all recommended modifications were performed by the researcher .Reliability was measured by using the Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient factor test to determine the internal consistency of each scale and all were satisfactory for professional nursing value scale (0.956),and My Vocational Situation scale(0.871).

Fieldwork

   The data collection phase of the study took three months from the 1st of June to the 1st September of 2023. During this stage all the data were collected from the study subjects.

The preparatory phase was done by meeting the study subjects, each nurse intern was met individually, got a full explanation about the aim of the study and was invited to participate. The nurse intern who gave his/her verbal informed consent to participate was handed the self- administered questionnaire and was instructed during the filling. The second phase included handing the required number of questionnaire sheets to nurse interns in their training setting by the researcher to elicit their opinions. The data were collected six days a week (Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday ,Thursday) the researcher met nurse interns in each unit in the morning   to distribute the questionnaires. Nurse interns completed the questionnaires at the same time of distribution and took about 10-15 minutes. The researcher checked each questionnaire sheet after they had been completed to ensure the completion of all information.

Pilot study:

A pilot study was carried out on 10 % of study subjects (24 nurse interns) to test applicability, feasibility, practicability of the tools. In addition, to estimate the time required for filling in the questionnaire sheets. The pilot study was conducted one week before collection of data and nurse interns were selected randomly and they were excluded from the main study sample.

Administrative and ethical considerations:

The study was approved by ethics committee and dean of the Faculty of Nursing, Zagazig University. Then, a letter containing the aim of the study was directed from the Faculty of Nursing to the medical and nursing administration of the Zagazig University Hospitals requesting their approval and cooperation for data collection. Consent was established with the completion of the questionnaires. As well, verbal explanation of the nature and aim of the study had been explained to nurse interns included in the study sample. Likewise, an individual oral consent was received from each participant in the study after explaining the purpose of the study. Nurse interns were given an opportunity to refuse or to participate, and they were assured that the information would be used confidentially for the research purpose only.

Statistical analysis:

All data were collected, tabulated and statistically analyzed using IBM Corp. Released 2015. IBM SPSS Statistics for Windows, Version 23.0. Armonk, NY: IBM Corp. Quantitative data were expressed as the mean ± SD &median (range), and qualitative data were expressed as & (percentage). Percent of categorical variables were compared using Chi-square test. Pearson' correlation coefficient was calculated to assess relationship between various study variables, (+) sign indicate direct correlation & (-) sign indicate inverse correlation, also values near to 1 indicate strong correlation & values near 0 indicate weak

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correlation.Multiple linear regression is a predictive analysis. Multiple linear regression is used to describe data and to explain the relationship between one dependent continues variable and one or more independent variables. All tests were two sided. P-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant , p-value $\geq$ 0.05 was considered statistically insignificant.

Results:

Table (1): Shows frequency and percentage distribution of the studied nurses according to personal characteristics. This table shows that 91.8% of nurse interns aged more than 23 years and the mean age of them was 23.27±0.63 years. As well, the majority of nurse interns was female, lived in rural area, single, and had enough family income and enrollment in college on basic desire (72.1%, 70.5%, 66.0%, 80.7%, and 79.9% respectively) .In addition, the majority of nurse interns (20.1%) were distributed in internal medicine hospital.

Figure1: Show total level of studied nurse interns regarding professional nursing value .It's clear from this figure that only 41.8% of nurse interns had a high level of professional nursing value, while 32.4% of them had a low level of professional nursing value.

Figure (2): Show frequency distribution of nurse intern's regarding professional nursing value domains. It's clear from this figure that 52.9%, 44.7%, 40.6% of nurse interns had a high level of professional nursing value regarding professionalism of nursing, self-concept of profession, social awareness. While 37.7%, 35.6% of them had a low level of professional nursing value regarding rule of nursing service and originality of nursing.

Figure(3): Show total level of nurse intern's perception regarding career identity. It's clear from this figure that only 57.8% of nurse interns had moderate level of career identity, while 42.2% of them had a low level of career identity.

Table (2): Show relation between total level of nurse intern's professional nursing value and their Personal characteristics .It's clear from this table that there was only statistically significant relation between professional nursing value and Personal characteristics of nurse interns regarding hospitals name according to area of distribution (p-value=0.0001). It obvious that nurse interns who are distributed in surgical hospital had high professional nursing value than others.

Table (3): Show relation between total level of nurse intern's perception regarding career identity and their Personal characteristics. It's clear from this table that there was only statistically significant relation between career identity and Personal characteristics regarding hospitals name (p-value=0.002). It obvious that nurse interns who are distributed in heart &chest surgery hospital had high level of perception about their career identity than others.

Table (4): shows Correlations between professional nursing value and career identity of studied nurse interns .It is clear from this table that there was statistical significant correlation between professional nursing value and career identity (r =0.732,p-value =0.0001).

Discussion:
Concerning the personal characteristics of studied nurse interns
The findings of the present study indicated that most of nurse interns aged more than 23 years .As well, the majority of nurse interns were female, lived in rural area, single, have enough family income and enrollment in college on basic desire. The possible explanation for these results may be due to that the faculty of nursing is predominantly attended by females and nursing is considered a feminist career and entering of male into the faculties of nursing is recent in Egypt and they were enrollment in college on basic desire because of the high employment rates, and many wanted to work in a general hospital after graduation.

These results were in agreement with a study carried out by **Zeng et al. (2022),** in China, who explore the influencing factors of nursing interns' professional identity and professional value during clinical internship, and found that most of studied nursing students were females and enrollment in college on basic desire.

Conversely, this findings disagreed with a study carried out by **Haghighat;Borhani&Ranjbar (2020),** in Iran, who investigate the relationship between the development of professional value and the formation of professional identity in nursing student and founded that more than half of the sample are male , aged less than 23 years, family income not enough.

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Concerning total level of studied nurse interns regarding professional nursing value

The findings of present study indicated that almost half of nursing students had a high level of professional nursing value. This finding could be due to nurse interns recognized the importance of professional nursing value which provides a good chance for future career, job satisfaction and professional development. Also, when nurse interns has professional nursing values is guiding in professional practices and increasing the quality of nursing care. Additionally, they aware that values have an effect on their interactions with patients and ultimately patient safety and outcomes, which in turn lead to that high professional nursing value.

The previous findings go in the same line with those of other previous studies carried out by **Kaya;Düzgün&Boz (2023),** in Turkey, which studied the relationship between professional values, ethical sensitivity among nursing students,**Abdullah &Chong (2020**),in Indonesian, who conducted a study to assess factors influencing professional values among nursing students, and **Poorchangizi et al. (2019),** in Iran, who conducted a study to assess importance of professional values from nursing students' perspective in hospitals of a medical university, and they found that nearly half of students had a high level of professional nursing value.

Conversely, the previous finding contradicted with **Naseri et al. (2022),** in Iran , who conducted a study to determine the relationship between experienced incivility behaviors and professional values in the clinical setting and also the factors influencing incivility and professional value, **Parvan ;Zamanzadeh& Hosseini (2020)** ,in Iran who conducted a study to assessment of professional values among Iranian nursing students**, Kantek ;Kaya& Gezer (2019),** in Turkey , who conducted a study to assess the relationship between professional values, student's satisfaction and tendency to leave the school and they found that the student low level of professional nursing values, and **Boozaripour et al .(2019),** in Iran , who conducted a study to assess the first priority of professional values from the perspective of Iranian, they found that the majority had high level of professional nursing values.

Concerning frequency distribution of nurse interns regarding professional nursing value domains

The findings of this study presented that the highest percentage of nurse interns had a high level of professional nursing value regarding professionalism of nursing, self-concept of profession and social awareness .This result may be due to the nurse interns are willing to utilize their knowledge, skills, time for their patients, show responsibility and ethics that are required for professional and continuously make efforts to be equipped with a great personality. Also, they are agreeing very much that nursing provides great contribution to society with its profession, have a positive social perception and take care of patients with a professional inside.

Additionally, the guidance provided by experienced nurses during internships play a crucial role in shaping the professional attitude of nurse interns.

The previous study findings are in agreement with those of other previous studies as the one carried out by **Park (2021),** in China to assess effects of nursing education using films on perception of nursing, satisfaction with major, and professional nursing values and the other done by **Bang et al., (2020),** in Korea, to develop an instrument to assess professional values in Korean undergraduate nursing students, and they found that the majority had a high level of professional nursing value regarding professionalism of nursing and social awareness

Conversely, these findings are contradicted with study that carried out by **Min;Kim &Yoo, (2021),**in Korea , to assess effects of self-esteem, problem-solving ability, and professional nursing values on the career identity of nursing college students in south Korea and **Kim & Kim, (2020),**in Korea , who conducted a study to identify various factors influencing the level of nursing professionalism among nursing students and they found that the majority of nursing student had a high level of professional nursing value regarding rules of nursing service and originality of nursing.

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Concerning total level of nurse intern's perception regarding career identity

The findings of the present study indicated more than half of nurse interns had moderate level of career identity. These findings may be due to that nurse interns are often in a transitional phase of their careers, moving from the educational setting to professional practice. During this period, they may

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still be exploring and defining their career identity, leading to a moderate level of career identity.

Also, lack of experience of nurse interns in which they are at the beginning stages of their careers, they may not have accumulated enough experience or exposure to various aspects of the nursing profession to fully establish a strong sense of career identity and they may uncertain about the occupations they could perform well, making up my mind about a career has been a long and difficult problem for them and confused about the whole problem of deciding on a career.

These findings are in agreement with a study carried out by **Alharbi; Kuhn& Morphet, (2022),** in Australia, to determine the relationship between social media usage by undergraduate nursing students and the development of their professional identity., Also coincides with that of **Hu et al. (2022),** in China who aimed to explore the relationships among career identity, hope, job satisfaction, and the turnover intention of nurses, added to this **Sabanciogullari &Dogan (2019),** in Turkey , who investigate the relationship between job satisfaction, professional identity and intention to leave the profession among nurses in Turkey and they found that more than half of subject had moderate level of career identity.

Conversely, these findings are in disagreement with the previous study carried out by **Ali& Mahmoud, (2022),** in Egypt to determine the relationship between the professional identity crisis and the academic adjustment of social work students and they found that high percentage of the student had a low level of career identity , also, **Li-zhen et al., (2021),** in China , to describe nursing students' career identity, and to find out influences of nursing students' career planning, internship experience, and other factors on career identity. Also, study carried by **Hussien;AbdulHameed& Elshahat, (2021)** ,in Egypt to investigate the relations among professional identity, wellness, and future hope in nurse interns and they found that more than half of the student had a high level of career identity.

Concerning relation between total level of nurse intern's professional nursing value and their Personal characteristic

The current study finding reveals that there was only statistically significant relation between professional nursing value and personal characteristics of nurse interns regarding hospitals name according to area of distribution .In which nurse interns who are distributed in surgical hospital had high professional nursing value than other. One possible cause can be the specialized nature of surgical hospitals. These hospitals often deal with complex medical procedures and critical patient care, requiring a high level of expertise and dedication from nurses.

As a result, nurse interns who choose to work in surgical hospitals may have a greater interest and passion for surgical nursing, leading to higher professional nursing values. Furthermore, the working environment in surgical hospitals may also influence the professional nursing values of nurse interns.

These findings are in agreement with the result of the study carried out by **Katoch et al ., (2023),** in India , the study conducted to investigate significance of professional values-based leadership and the value of nursing student , **Bleda &AlvarezI, (2020),** in Spain, to assess the perceptions of professional values among students at a Spanish nursing school and they found that there was statistically significant relation between professional nursing value and personal characteristics of nursing students regarding hospitals name according to area of distribution.

Conversely, these findings disagreed with those studies carried out by **Pokhrel ;Neupane& Niroul , (2023),** in Nepal, the study was done to assess the professional values among undergraduate nursing students in Nobel medical college teaching hospital , who found that there was a statistically significant relationship between professional values and age, **Basit et al., (2022),** in Turkey , in which the study conducted to determine the relationship between nurses' professional values and caring behaviors who found that there was no statistically significant difference in professional nursing values between nurses based position and area of distribution.

Concerning relation between total level of nurse intern's perception regarding career identity and their Personal characteristics

The finding of the present study indicated that there was only statistically significant relation between career identity and personal characteristics regarding hospitals name, in which nurse interns who are distributed in heart &chest surgery hospital had high level of perception about their career identity than others. The reason of this results that chest and heart hospitals often provide more specialized and

advanced training opportunities for nurse interns compared to other hospitals. These additional learning experiences could enhance the nurse interns' career identity and foster a deeper connection to their chosen profession.

These findings are in agreement with the result of the study of **Peng et al., (2023),** in Japan who investigate the relationship between moral distress, moral courage, and career identity, and explore the mediating role of moral courage between moral distress and career identity among nurses ,**Shin (2022),** in Korea, the study was to verify the adaptation of college life, nursing professionalism and career identity in nursing students on alternative clinical practicum and they found that there was only statistically significant relation between career identity and Personal characteristics regarding area of distribution of hospital name.

On the contrary, these findings disagreed with **Wendling & Sagas, (2022),** in Florida ,to assess career identity statuses derived from the career identity development inventory, and found that there was no statistically significant relation between career identity and personal characteristics.

Concerning correlations between professional nursing value and career identity among studied nurse interns

The current study finding indicated that there was statistically significant and direct correlation between professional nursing value and career identity .This might be due to nurse interns gain practical experience in clinical settings, which exposes them to real-world challenges and situations. This hands-on experience allows them to reinforce the importance of professional nursing values. Through direct patient care, interns gain a deeper understanding of the impact they can have on patients' lives and their own career identity and the organizational culture within healthcare institutions during internship period plays a significant role in shaping the values and career identity of nurse interns.

The finding was consistent with the result of the study of **Park (2022)** ,in Korea, who explored the influencing factors of self-esteem, problem-solving ability and nursing professionalism on career identity in College nursing students and found a positive correlation between nursing professionalism, and career identity in college nursing students . Additionally, **Min et al. (2021),** in Korea, to assess effects of self-esteem, problem-solving ability, and professional nursing values on the career identity of nursing college students in south Korea and found that there are positive correlations among professional nursing value and career identity.

While this finding contradicted with the study conducted in Korea by **Song&Kim (2020),** who assessed the Influence of self-efficacy, career identity on professional value in Nursing Students .Also, **Myung &Chae (2019),** in China, who assessed career identity and professional value and self-Concept of nursing students and they found that there was no correlation between professional nursing value and career identity**.**

Conclusion:

In the light of the main study results; it can be concluded that two fifth of nurse interns had a high level of professional nursing value and near three fifth of nurse interns had a moderate level of career identity. Additionally, highly statistical significant correlation between professional nursing value and career identity.

Recommendations:

In view of the main results of the study the following recommendations were derived and suggested

- At the beginning of internship year the Faculty of Nursing can conduct an orientation program that focus on professional nursing value and important of its dimensions.

-Provide nurse interns with training in effective communication skills, including building rapport with patients, encourage them to engage with patients in a respectful and compassionate manner to build trust and convey professionalism.

-Enhance nursing education programs to include dedicated modules or courses focusing on professional nursing values.

-Nursing educational administrators should organize education programs for refreshing and increasing knowledge and skills about nursing career identity of nurse interns.

- Health care facilities should encourage nurse-interns to attend continuing education in the form of workshops and conference related to career identity.

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Result:

Table (1): Frequency distribution of the studied nurse interns according to personal characteristics (n=244)

Personal Characteristics	N	%
Age		
< 23 years	20	8.2%
≥23 years	224	91.8%
Mean ±SD	23.27±0.63	
Median(Range)	23(22-25)	
Gender		
Males	68	27.9%
Females	176	72.1%
Place of residence		
Rural	172	70.5%
Urban	72	29.5%
Marital status		
Single	161	66.0%
Married	81	33.2%
Divorced	2	0.8%
Family income		
Enough	197	80.7%
Not enough	47	19.3%
Enrollment in college is considered a basic desire		
Yes	195	79.9%
No	49	20.1%
Hospital name		
Internal medicine hospital	49	20.1%
Emergency hospital	47	19.3%
Surgical hospital	44	18.0%
Pediatric hospital	42	17.2%
Heart &Chest surgery	37	15.2%
The delivery and premature hospital	25	10.2%

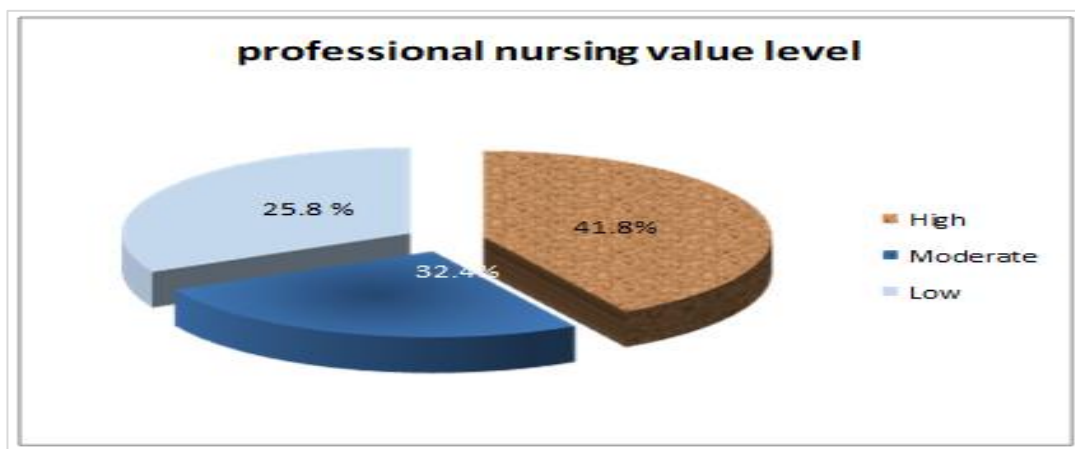professional nursing value level: High 41.8%, Moderate 32.4%, Low 25.8%

Figure (1): Total level of studied nurse interns regarding professional nursing value (n=244).
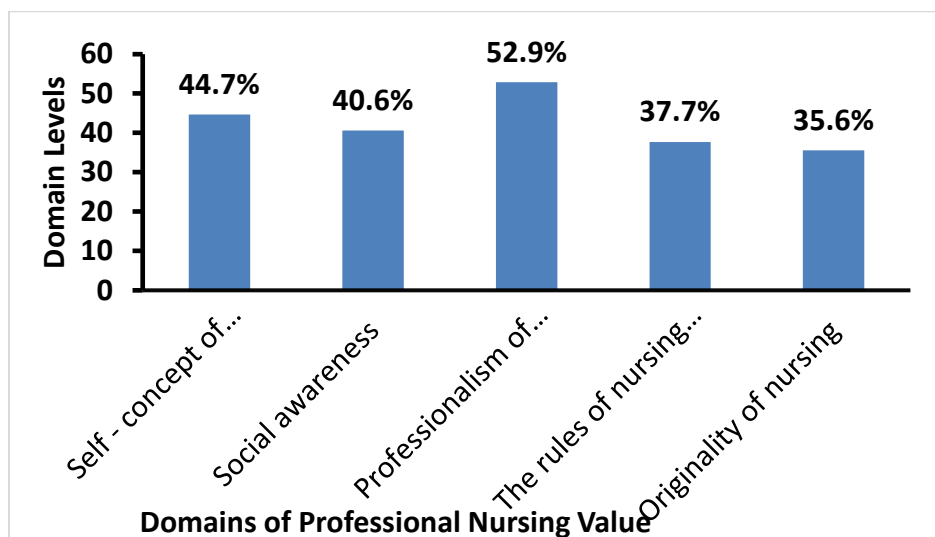

Figure (2): Frequency distribution of nurse intern's regarding professional nursing value domains (n=244).
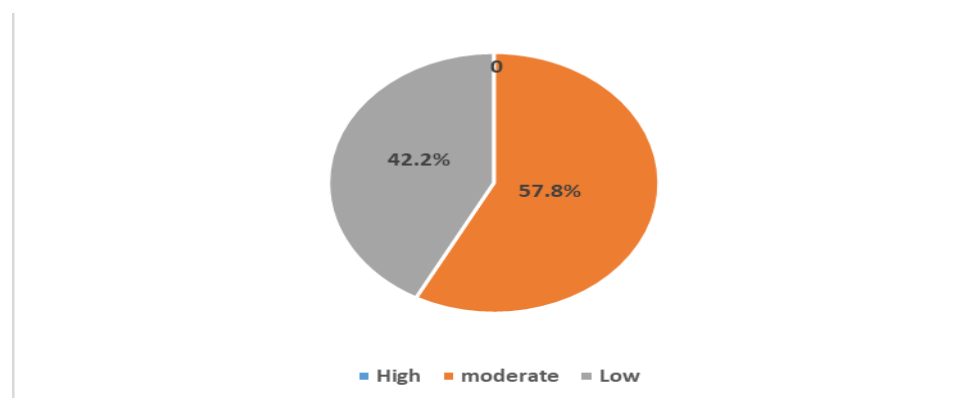
Figure (3): Total level of nurse intern's perception regarding career identity (n=244).

Table (2): Relation between total level of nurse intern's professional nursing value and their Personal characteristics (n=244).

Variables	professional nursing value level						no.	χ^2	p-value
	High no.102		Moderate no.63		Low no.79				
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			
Age									
<23 year	11	55.0%	6	30.0%	3	15.0%	20	3.1	0.214
≥23year	91	40.6%	57	25.4%	76	33.9%	224	-	-
Sex									
Males	27	39.7%	17	25.0%	24	35.3%	68	.372	0.83
females	75	42.6%	46	26.1%	55	31.3%	176	-	-

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Place of residence								
Rural	68	39.5%	49	28.5%	55	32.0%	172	2.35	0.31
Urban	34	47.2%	14	19.4%	24	33.3%	72	-	-
Marital status								
Single	70	43.5%	43	26.7%	48	29.8%	161	7.61	0.11
Married	32	39.5%	18	22.2%	31	38.3%	81	-	-
Divorced	0	.0%	2	100.0%	0	.0%	2	-	-
Enrollment in college is considered a basic desire								
Yes	84	43.1%	52	26.7%	59	30.3%	195	1.995	0.37
No	18	36.7%	11	22.4%	20	40.8%	49	-	-
Family income								
Enough	87	44.2%	47	23.9%	63	32.0%	197	2.936	0.23
Not enough	15	31.9%	16	34.0%	16	34.0%	47	-	-
Hospital names								
Internal medicine hospital	11	22.4%	15	30.6%	23	46.9%	49	-	-
Emergency hospital	25	53.2%	9	19.1%	13	27.7%	47	-	-
Surgical hospital	26	59.1%	6	13.6%	12	27.3%	44	54.13	**0.0001***
Pediatric hospital	15	35.7%	4	9.5%	23	54.8%	42	-	-
Heart &Chest surgery	16	43.2%	21	56.8%	0	.0%	37	-	-
The delivery and premature hospital	9	36.0%	8	32.0%	8	32.0%	25	-	-

χ^2:Chisquare test,   p>0.05: no significant , * p<0.05: significant

Table (3): Relation between total level of nurse intern's perception regarding career identity and their Personal characteristics (n=244).

Variables	Career identity				No.	χ^2	p-value
	Moderate no.141		Low no.103				
	No.	%	No.	%			
Age							
<23 year	14	70.0%	6	30.0%	20	1.41	0.248
≥23year	127	56.7%	97	43.3%	224	-	-
Sex							
Males	41	60.3%	27	39.7%	68	0.24	0.62
Females	100	56.8%	76	43.2%	176	-	-
Place of residence							
Rural	99	57.6%	73	42.4%	172	0.013	0.91
Urban	42	58.3%	30	41.7%	72	-	-
Marital status							
Single	95	59.0%	66	41.0%	161	1.96	0.38
Married	44	54.3%	37	45.7%	81	-	-
Divorced	2	100.0%	0	.0%	2	-	-
Enrollment in college is considered a basic desire							
Yes	112	57.4%	83	42.6%	195	0.049	0.83
No	29	59.2%	20	40.8%	49	-	-
Family Income							

Enough	118	59.9%	79	40.1%	197	-	-
Not enough	23	48.9%	24	51.1%	47	1.869	0.17
Hospital names							
Internal medicine hospital	27	55.1%	22	44.9%	49	-	-
Emergency hospital	29	61.7%	18	38.3%	47	-	-
Surgical hospital	25	56.8%	19	43.2%	44	19.2	**0.002***
Pediatric hospital	15	35.7%	27	64.3%	42	-	-
Heart &Chest surgery	31	83.8%	6	16.2%	37	-	-
The delivery and premature hospital	14	56.0%	11	44.0%	25	-	-

χ^2:Chisquare test, **p>0.05:** no significant , *** p<0.05:** significant

Table (4): Correlation matrix between total level of professional nursing value and career identity (n=244).

	Professional nursing value	
Items	(r)	P
Career identity score	0.732**	0.0001

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