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VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

JANUARY - JUNE 2026

SR. NO.	CONTENT	PAGE NO.
1.	Editorial note	01
2.	Florence Nightingale and the ICN Theme of 2026: Our Nurses. Our Future. Empowered Nurses Save Lives.(Special edition)	02
3.	Knowledge and perception regarding stroke prevention among the high-risk patients in tertiary care hospital: A cross-sectional study.	09
4.	Artificial intelligence readiness among nursing students: A cross-sectional study.	15
5.	Effect of lactation practice on breastfeeding techniques and the level of maternal satisfaction among post-cesarean primipara mothers.	19
6.	From bedside to safer care: Impact of an Integrated Digital Safety System on patient awareness.	29
7.	Exploration and description of sports-specific cognitive and somatic anxiety in collegiate women aged 18–25 years.	33
8.	Efficacy of music therapy on alleviating level of pain among pediatric cancer patients receiving chemotherapy.	46
9.	Level of mindfulness among nursing students and faculty in nursing educational institutes: A comparative study.	59
10.	Prevalence of anemia among women in selected urban area.	66

Aim of NIJ

To publish high-quality original research articles in the field of nursing that are novel and innovative in their findings that make substantial theoretical and practical advances in the nursing profession.

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The Nursing Innovators Journal (NIJ) publishes authors' views, which do not necessarily reflect the editorial board's or affiliated institutions' official stance.



From the Editor's desk. "Charting New Horizons in Nursing Research and Practice"

It is with great pleasure to present the January-June issue 2026 of the Nursing Innovators Journal (NIJ), an open-access, double-blinded, peer-reviewed international journal.

As an open-access e-journal, we are committed to providing quality nursing research content that drives innovation in the nursing profession. Each article has gone through rigorous editorial review, including a plagiarism scan, an AI detection scan, double-blinded peer reviews, and final editing. In this issue, we also commemorate International Nurses Day 2026 by recognizing the enduring legacy of Florence Nightingale and aligning with the global vision of empowering nurses to lead transformative changes in healthcare.

This January-June 2026 Volume 2, Issue 1, highlights the contemporary priorities in the field of nursing practice, education, patient safety, community health, and AI in nursing practice. Themes such as stroke prevention, breastfeeding promotion, anaemia awareness, pain management, mindfulness, patient safety, sports-related anxiety, and artificial intelligence readiness reflect the expanding scope of nursing research in addressing emerging healthcare challenges. Together, these contributions underscore the nursing profession's commitment to innovation, compassionate care, health promotion, and the advancement of quality healthcare delivery across diverse populations.

In this era of rapid technological advancement, rising global health emergencies, economic crisis, climate-related health risks, and growing mental health concerns, researchers must be prepared to undertake issues that are forward-looking, informed, resilient, and innovative, and health care practices adaptable to the changing landscape. Nurse research needs to chart a new horizon of care that is adaptive, evolving in scope, and humane in approach. Finding the right balance within this kaleidoscope of human needs is the fundamental question that nurse researchers must seek to answer. It is time to chart a new horizon.

NIJ and its editorial board are committed to providing genuine content for the readers that is based on authentic and original research and academic expertise. We ensure this commitment through our double-blinded peer-reviewed process and stringent SOP editorial process to bring out issues of high-quality academic research based on methodological rigor and its findings for the profession and public at large.

The views and opinions expressed in the published articles are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, editorial board, publisher, or affiliated institutions. The journal assumes no responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the published content. On behalf of the editorial team, I extend our sincere appreciation to all contributors and readers for their continued support.

Warm regards,

Prof. Laishangbam Bijayalakshmi Devi

Editor, Nursing Innovators Journal, MKSSSBTINE, Pune

Artificial Intelligence Readiness Among Nursing Students: A Cross-Sectional Study.

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Abstract: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming an important component of modern healthcare systems, influencing clinical decision-making, patient safety, and workflow efficiency. Nurses are expected to work closely with such technologies; however, their preparedness, especially during training, remains uncertain. This study aimed to assess nursing students' perceptions, confidence, and ethical readiness for integrating AI tools into clinical practice. A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among 300 undergraduate nursing students selected through simple random sampling. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The findings revealed that students had generally positive perceptions toward AI (mean score 3.9 ± 0.6), with most agreeing that AI can improve patient safety and reduce workload. However, confidence in using AI tools was moderate (mean 3.1 ± 0.7), particularly in interpreting outputs and handling technical issues. Ethical readiness was comparatively low (mean 2.8 ± 0.8), with limited awareness of data privacy, algorithmic bias, and professional accountability. Significant associations were observed between prior exposure to AI and higher confidence and ethical readiness ($p < 0.05$). The study highlights the need to strengthen AI-related competencies in nursing education through structured learning, practical exposure, and ethical training. Preparing future nurses for AI-supported environments is essential for safe and effective healthcare delivery.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, nursing students, ethical readiness, clinical decision support, digital health

I. Introduction:

Artificial Intelligence is increasingly influencing healthcare delivery by improving diagnostic accuracy and supporting clinical decisions¹. Technologies such as decision support systems and predictive models are now part of routine clinical environments². These developments have created opportunities for improving patient outcomes and healthcare efficiency. Despite these advancements, the integration of AI into clinical settings requires a workforce that is adequately trained. The World Health Organization has emphasized the importance of ethical governance and workforce preparedness in the adoption of AI technologies³. However, studies indicate that many healthcare professionals lack sufficient knowledge and training in digital health tools⁴.

Nurses play a central role in patient care and are often responsible for implementing technological interventions. Their ability to interpret AI-generated recommendations while maintaining clinical judgment is essential⁵. Ethical challenges such as data privacy, bias in algorithms, and accountability further complicate the use of AI in practice^{6,7}. Limited research has explored how nursing students perceive AI and whether they feel confident and ethically prepared to use it. This study aims to address this gap.

Aim of the study:

To assess nursing students:

1. Perceptions toward AI in clinical practice
2. Confidence in using AI tools
3. Ethical readiness for AI-supported healthcare delivery

II. Methodology:

A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among 300 undergraduate nursing students. Participants were selected using simple random sampling from selected nursing colleges.

The study included students from all academic years. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire consisting of four sections: demographic variables, perceptions, confidence, and ethical readiness.

Reliability testing showed Cronbach's alpha values of 0.88 (perception), 0.85 (confidence), and 0.82 (ethical readiness). Ethical approval was obtained, and informed consent was secured.

Data were analyzed using SPSS. Descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation, frequency) and inferential tests (chi-square, ANOVA, regression) were applied. A p -value < 0.05 was considered significant.

III. Results:

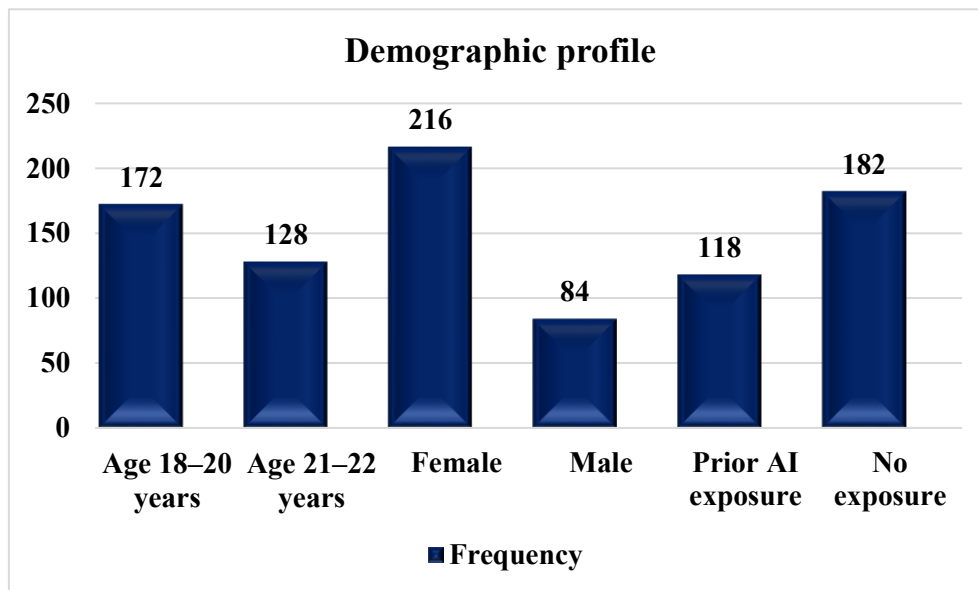


Table 1: Demographic profile

N = 300

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Age 18–20 years	172	57.3%
Age 21–22 years	128	42.7%
Female	216	72%
Male	84	28%
Prior AI exposure	118	39.3%
No exposure	182	60.7%

Table 2: Domain scores (Mean ± SD)

Domain	Mean ± SD
Perception	3.9 ± 0.6
Confidence	3.1 ± 0.7
Ethical Readiness	2.8 ± 0.8

Table 3: Confidence by AI Exposure

Group	Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>p</i> -value
With exposure	3.5 $\pm$ 0.6	
Without exposure	2.9 $\pm$ 0.7	0.001*

Table 4: Ethical Readiness by Academic Year

Year	Mean $\pm$ SD	<i>p</i> -value
1st year	2.5 $\pm$ 0.7	
2nd year	2.7 $\pm$ 0.8	
3rd year	3.0 $\pm$ 0.7	
4th year	3.2 $\pm$ 0.6	0.02*

(*Significant at $p < 0.05$)

IV. Discussion:

The present study shows that nursing students generally hold positive views toward AI, which aligns with previous findings^{1,4}. Students recognize the role of AI in improving patient safety and clinical efficiency.

However, confidence levels were moderate, indicating that students may not feel adequately prepared to use AI tools in real clinical settings. This suggests a gap between theoretical awareness and practical competence⁵.

Ethical readiness was found to be comparatively low. Many students were not fully aware of issues such as data privacy and algorithmic bias, which are critical for safe AI use^{6,7}.

The association between prior exposure and better outcomes highlights the importance of experiential learning. Practical training and simulation-based education could help improve preparedness.

V. Conclusion

While nursing students show positive perceptions toward AI, their confidence and ethical readiness remain limited. There is a clear need for integrating AI-focused education, practical exposure, and ethical training into nursing curricula.

Consent to participate:

All participants were informed about the purpose and procedures of the study before data collection. Written informed consent was obtained from all participants. Participation was entirely voluntary, and students were assured of confidentiality and anonymity. Participants were informed that they could withdraw from the study at any stage without any academic or personal consequences.

Conflict of interest:

The author declares that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this research article.

Acknowledgment:

The author expresses sincere gratitude to the management and faculty of the participating nursing colleges for granting permission to conduct the study. Special thanks are extended to all nursing students who voluntarily participated and contributed their valuable time and responses. The author also acknowledges the support received from parents, soulmate, colleagues, and well-wishers during the completion of this research work.

Individual author contribution statement:

Ms. Tejashri Mulye solely contributed to all aspects of this study. The author was responsible for the conception and design of the research, literature review, development of the study instrument, data collection, data analysis and interpretation, manuscript preparation, revision, and final approval of the manuscript for publication.

Artificial intelligence tools were used only for language refinement and formatting purposes. The study design, data collection, analysis, and interpretation were carried out by the author.

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The Maharshi Karve Stree Shikshan Samstha's Smt. Bakul Tambat Institute of Nursing Education started on the campus of the Samstha in Pune in August 2000. The institute is Committed to Developing "Conscientious, Confident, and Caring quality professionals of International repute". The Institute is recognized by the Indian Nursing Council, Delhi, Maharashtra Nursing Council, Mumbai, Maharashtra State Board of Nursing and Paramedical Education (MSBNPE), Mumbai, and affiliated to Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik. The Institute is accredited with NAAC 'A' Grade. The institute has around 600 girl students pursuing various courses i.e. GNM, B.Sc. Nursing, P.B.B.Sc Nursing, M.Sc. Nursing and Ph.D. in Nursing. Clinical learning is conducted in the parent hospitals i.e. Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital and Mai Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune.

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About Nursing Innovators Journal:

Nursing Innovators Journal (NIJ) is an open-access, double-blinded peer-reviewed online international journal (eISSN: 3108-074X) that publishes original research, reviews, and thought-provoking articles. Our NIJ mission is to connect global communities by sharing ground-breaking insights and fostering intellectual growth among nursing professional in all work of life.

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Our NIJ Aim:

- To publish high-quality original research articles in the field of nursing that are novel and innovative in their findings that make substantial theoretical and practical advances in the nursing profession.

Our NIJ Objective:

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- Serve as a reference for cutting-edge nursing innovations.



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