

CHAPTER IV

THE STUDY POPULATION

This chapter deals with the study population. The selection of the sample and to what extent the result of the study may be generalized to a broader population.

4.1 TARGET POPULATION

The target population is the total group of persons that meets the designated set of criteria established by the researcher to whom the result of the research could be generalized (Seaman, Catherine H.C., 1987). In this study the target population was the staff nurse working in T.U. Teaching Hospital, Nepal.

4.2 SAMPLE POPULATION

Sample is the subset of population drawn from the target population. In this study the total (target) population as defined the eligibility criteria is included as sample population. So total accessible population of staff nurses from T.U.T.H. are the sample population.



4.3 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

INCLUSION CRITERIA

All accessible staff nurses who were willing to participate in this study.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

New graduate staff nurses who had not completed six month period of service effective from the date of data collection.

4.4 SAMPLE TECHNIQUE

The purposive sampling technique was used in this study. Purposive sampling is the process of picking cases that are judged to be typical of the population, restricting observation to subgroup. Because the study population emphasized the representation in term of agency, for instance, the study was intended to select population from University Teaching Hospital in Nepal. There was no choice but to select the only one Teaching Hospital under Tribhuvan University in Nepal.

4.5 MINIMIZATION OF SAMPLING BIAS

Since the whole population was included in the study, there may not be the question of sampling bias. It represented the target population.

4.6 SAMPLE SIZE

The size of the sample depends upon the size and nature of the population and the type of question asked. The number of the study unit must be sufficient to make the study reliable. A large sample is much more likely to be representative of the population. The larger the sample the greater the value of reliability involves and increases power of the statistical test applied to the data. The size of the sample may be smaller if the population is known to be homogeneous; in this case, the sample may be expected to represent the population (Seaman, Catherine, H.C. 1987). So this study included all professional staff nurses of that particular period. The sample population consisted of 106 staff nurses. Of these 70 (66.0%) were identified for whom complete data was available and those subjects were included in this study.

4.7 LIMITATION

T.U. Teaching Hospital was the only hospital under University in Nepal, therefore, the study was focused on that particular hospital. The sample was limited to total accessible population of those staff nurses who were working in TUTH during the period of data collection