

The Relation between Spiritual Intelligence and Professional Self-Concept among Nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital

Faten F. Farag¹, Gehan M. Diab²,
Hind H. Hassan³

¹B.S.C in nursing sciences 2009,

²Professor of Nursing Administration,

³Assistant Professor of Nursing Administration,

^{2,3}Faculty of Nursing-Menoufia University.

Abstract: Background: Spiritual Intelligence is becoming concept in health that can improves optimal performance, integrity, and adaptability in handling crises, which benefits professional practice and competence in the workplace, especially for nurses.

Purpose: To assess the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital. **Design:** A correlational research design was used. **Setting:** The study was conducted at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital. **Sampling:** A convenient sampling of 250 nurses were selected. **Instruments:**

Two instruments were used which are Spiritual Intelligence questionnaire and Nurse's Self-Concept Questionnaire. **Results:** The result illustrates that the vast majority of the studied nurses (92.0%) demonstrated a high level of spiritual intelligence. The vast majority of the studied nurses (93.6%) exhibited a positive professional self-concept. There was a highly statistically significant positive correlation between total spiritual intelligence and total professional self-concept among the studied nurses ($p < 0.001$).

Conclusion: There is a strong positive correlation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among the studied nurses. **Recommendations:** Organizations should adopt practices and create environments that support spiritual development, and enhance professional self-concept. Further studies about barriers affecting spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept in different healthcare sectors.

Keywords: Nurses, professional self-concept, spiritual intelligence

Introduction

Nowadays, Nurses are regarded as the backbone of the healthcare industry worldwide since they practice a medical profession that is centered on providing care to individuals, families, and communities. It has been

suggested that in order to participate in professional activity, one must possess cognitive, social, and emotional intelligence. In contemporary times, spiritual intelligence has been

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incorporated into the skill set needed by professionals (Nor& Arabi, 2024).

Spiritual intelligence, is a type of adaptation and problem-solving behavior that accounts for the highest levels of growth in a variety of domains, including moral, emotional, interpersonal, and cognitive domains. The ability to adapt to external phenomena, achieve internal and external integration, and express a set of spiritual abilities and capacities are all made possible by this intelligence. These abilities and capacities also help the person become more adaptable, capable of solving problems under pressure, and able to maintain composure and freshness in both their personal and professional lives (Xi & Gui, 2023).

Spiritual Intelligence is a complete image of human intelligence that enhances one's psychological coping capacities and able to improve or facilitate consciousness or sense of connection with a higher power or a holy being. This intelligence indicates a set of spiritual abilities, capabilities, and resources application of which leads to increase in people's adaptability and therefore mental health, because the development of beliefs plays a fundamental role in various fields especially mental health promotion (Thakadipuram et al., 2024). Professional self-concept in nursing is the way in which nurses think and feel about themselves in their role as nurses, and it is related to the quality of nursing care. nurses with a healthy self-concept are more competent and committed not only to their tasks' performance but also to the people around colleagues or

patients , thus promoting a positive work environment. Therefore, nurses with a good professional self-concept are likely to provide better patient care than those with a poor professional self-concept improving person-centered care and patient safety activities (Laborería & Urcola-Pardo, 2023).

Professional self-concept means the understanding that nurses have to deal in a good way in the nursing work environment. Professional self-concept among nurses reflects the information and beliefs they have about their role, values, and behaviors, and is an attitude that enhances their sense of professional identity (Al-Noumani & George, 2024). Positive professional self-concept improves nurses' empowerment and clinical performance and problem solving and subsequently enhances the quality of nursing care provided (Shafaei & Sharafizad, 2024).

The professional self-concept of nurses will enable them to deliver exceptional quality of care. They will feel confident and have high self-esteem when they have a strong professional self-concept and the information necessary to care for the patients. The traits, abilities, and conduct that are expected of people in their professional roles are referred to as professional self-concept. A professional must be well-versed in their specialty, have undergone extensive training, and be knowledgeable about general psychology, pedagogy, and culture (Park & Kim, 2024).

Furthermore, a nurse's professional self-concept may have an impact on their mental health and general

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wellbeing in a manner similar to that of other pertinent work-related variables including stress, burnout, and job satisfaction. An individual's view of themselves as professionals has an impact on various facets of professional performance, and this is known as their professional self-concept (Almeida & Rosa, 2023).

Nurse's professional self-concept may be positively impacted by spiritual intelligence, which could benefit patients and their families. Furthermore, in order to provide patients and families with integrated services, spiritual intelligence fosters successful communication and collaboration with diverse health care teams. Through increased job involvement, engagement, clinical competency, and organizational behavior, spiritual intelligence improves one's professional self-concept (Mehralian & Bordbar, 2023).

Significance of the study

Spiritual intelligence as a framework for identifying and organizing the skills and performance compatibilities could be one of the important factors affecting the improvement of nurse's competence and their knowledge and understanding (Abbasi & Alavi, 2023). The professional self-concept is influential on the way of thinking and evolving the role, behavior, and professional performance of the individual. The investigator found that a multiple studies on these two variables have been done separately for example Khodabakhshi et al., (2019) studied the relationship between spiritual intelligence and emotional

intelligence with self-compassion of nursing students and Montazeralfaraj et al., (2018) studied measuring the nurses' professional self-concept and its correlation with working stress in Iranian educational hospitals but no research has been conducted to determine the relation between both variables among nurses. Therefore, the investigator found what it is important to study the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital.

Purpose of study

The purpose of the current study is to determine the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital.

Research questions

- 1) What is the level of spiritual intelligence among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital?
- 2) What is the level of professional self-concept among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital?
- 3) What is the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital?

Methods

Design:

A correlational research design was used in conducting this study.

Sampling:

Sample size was determined by using Yamane, (1976) formula to assess the sample size of staff nurses:

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$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$$

N= is the total number of staff nurses.

n = is the sample size.

e= is coefficient factor = 0.05.

1= is a constant value.

The sample size of staff nurse is 600 /
(1+600× (0.05²) = 240 nurses.

Sampling technique:

A convenient sampling technique was used to select staff nurses who were available at the time of the study, accepted to participate in this study, had at least two years of experience and who were working at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital.

This study was conducted at critical care units in Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital.

Instruments:

Two instruments were used for data collection:

Instrument one: Spiritual

Intelligence Questionnaire:

This instrument was developed by Abdollahzadeh (2009) to collect data from nurses about their perception of Spiritual Intelligence.

It included two parts:

- **Part 1:** Demographic characteristics data of staff nurses:
Is a structured questionnaire designed by investigator to obtain the nurses' age, sex, marital status, educational qualifications, working hours system (hours), level of

religiousness, and level of spirituality.

- **Part 2:** Spiritual Intelligence Questionnaire:

It consists of 29 items. This section assessed four key dimensions of spiritual intelligence (Critical Existential Thinking (4 items), Personal Meaning Production (6 items), Transcendental Awareness (12 items), Conscious State Expansion (7 items).

Scoring system

Scoring system for each item:

Participants' responses were recorded on a three-point Likert scale, with options ranging from 1 to 3: (3) Agree, (2) Neutral, and (1) Disagree.

Total scoring system:

- High Level: >75%, equivalent to 65–87 points
- Moderate Level: 60% to <75%, equivalent to 52–64 points
- Low Level: <60%, equivalent to 29–51 points (Gouda & Meslhy, 2021).

Instrument two: Nurse's Self-Concept Questionnaire (NSCQ):

Developed by Cowin (2001), and modified by the researcher to assess the professional self-concept of nurses, encompassing both cognitive and emotional dimensions. The tool comprises 36 paired items, organized into six distinct dimensions that reflect various facets of a nurse's professional self-concept (Self-Esteem (6 items), Knowledge (6 items), Caring (6 items), Leadership (6 items), Staff Relations (6 items), Communication (6 items).

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Scoring system for each item:

Participants' used a 3-point Likert scale to rate responses: 3 = "Always", 2 = "Sometimes", and 1 = "Never." Each item is scored based on how frequently the nurse experiences the specific behavior or feeling.

Total scoring system:

- Positive Level: >75%, equivalent to 81–108 points
- Negative Level: <75%, equivalent to 36–80 points (Rashed et al., 2023).

Validity:

The instruments were modified by the researcher. As the two instruments were previously tested for face validity in the previous studies to judge its clarity, relevance, and accuracy. Certainly, Gouda & Meslhy (2021) had tested Spiritual Intelligence Questionnaire for validity. In the same line Rashed et al., (2023) had tested Nurse's Self-Concept Questionnaire for validity. So the instruments were considered valid.

Reliability:

Reliability of the instruments was tested by using Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient test to assess ($\alpha = 0.91$ for Spiritual intelligence questionnaire and Nurse's self-concept questionnaire value was $\alpha = 0.88$).

Pilot study:

After reviewing the instruments, the investigator conducted a pilot study before administering the final questionnaire. The purpose of the pilot study was to ascertain clarity, relevance, feasibility, applicability of the study instrument and to determine

obstacles that may be encountered during data collection. It was also helpful to estimate the time needed to fill the study instrument. The pilot study was carried on 25 nurses which represented (10% of sample size. No modifications were done. The time required to fill the two questionnaires were estimated to be 25-30 minutes.

Ethical consideration

The study was conducted with careful attention to ethical standards of research number (973 , 7/2023) and rights of the studied nurses before any attempt to collected data. Nurses rights were protected by ensuring voluntary participation; so that informed written consent was obtained after explaining the purpose, nature, time of conducting the study, benefits of the study and how data was collected. The respondents were assured that data was treated as strictly confidential as possible; Furthermore, the respondent's anonymity was maintained as they weren't required to mention their names. Nurses rights were protected by ensuring voluntary participation; so that informed written consent was obtained after explaining the purpose, nature, time of conducting the study, benefits of the study and how data was collected. The respondents were assured that data was treated as strictly confidential as possible.; Furthermore, the respondent's anonymity was maintained as they weren't required to mention their names.

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Procedure

An official letter was sent from the dean of the faculty of nursing containing title, the purpose and methods of data collection to the directors of Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital. Then a short briefing was conducted to orient the respondents to the objectives, to gain their cooperation to participate in the study. After an explanation of the purpose and nature of the study, nurses who fulfilled the inclusion criteria were invited to participate in the study. Thereafter, data was collected through a structured interview questionnaire in the presence of the investigator to ascertain all questions were answered and to clarify any inquiry. It took about 25-30 minutes to complete the two questionnaires. Data was collected in a period of three months from the beginning of June 2024 to the end of September 2024 in the morning, and afternoon with average three days /week.

Statistical analysis:

Data entry and analysis were performed using SPSS (Statistical package for Social Studies) statistical package version 25. Categorical variables were expressed as number and percentage while continuous variables were expressed as (mean \pm SD). Chi-Square (X²) was used to test the association between row and column variable of qualitative data.

ANOVA test (F) was used to compare mean in normally distributed quantitative variables for more than two groups. Pearson correlation was done to measure correlation between quantitative variables. To find the

systems thinking scores' independent predictor and used the multiple linear regression analysis.

For all tests, a two-tailed p-value ≤ 0.05 was considered statistically significant, P-value ≤ 0.01 was considered highly statistically significant. While p-value > 0.05 was considered not significant.

Results

Table (1) shows that three-fifths (60.0%) of the studied nurses aged between 25 to less than 35 years, with a mean age of 33.97 ± 7.63 years. In terms of educational qualifications and years of experience, around three-fifths (59.6% and 60.4%, respectively) held a Bachelor of Nursing Science degree and had between 5 to less than 15 years of experience, with a mean score of 10.30 ± 8.22 years.

Table (2): shows that the vast majority (95.2% and 93.6%, respectively) of studied nurses exhibited high levels of perceived spiritual intelligence (personal meaning production and transcendental awareness). In contrast, the lowest percentage (18.4% and 12.4%, respectively) reported moderate levels of perception in the dimensions of Conscious State Expansion and Critical Existential Thinking.

Table (3): clarifies that the vast majority (97.6%) of the studied nurses displayed a high and more positive professional self-concept in the communication dimension. Conversely, the lowest percentage (88.8%) was observed in the self-esteem dimension, suggesting a weaker or less positive self-concept in it.

Table (4): shows that the total mean score for all dimensions of professional

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self-concept among the studied nurses was 103.31 ± 7.96 . The highest-ranked dimension was communication, with a mean score of 17.51 ± 1.27 and a percentage mean of 97.3%. In contrast, the self-esteem dimension ranked lowest, with a mean score of 16.85 ± 2.37 and a percentage mean of 93.6%. The highest-ranked dimension was communication, with a mean score of 17.51 ± 1.27 and a percentage mean of 97.3%. In contrast, the self-esteem dimension ranked lowest, with a mean score of 16.85 ± 2.37 and a percentage mean of 93.6%.

Table 5: Table 5 clearly demonstrates a highly statistically significant positive correlation between total spiritual intelligence and total professional self-concept among the studied nurses ($p < 0.001$).

Figure 1: shows that less than one third (30.4% and 29.2%, respectively) of the studied nurses work in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Coronary Care Unit (CCU), while 19.2% are employed in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital.

Figure 2: illustrates that the vast majority (92.0%) of the studied nurses demonstrated a high level of spiritual intelligence. In contrast, a small percentage (8.0%) reported a moderate level of spiritual intelligence.

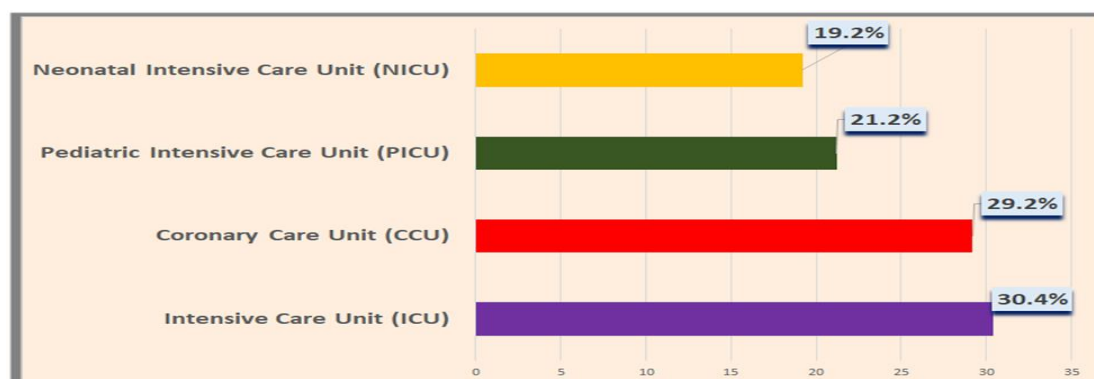
Figure 3: highlights that the vast majority (93.6%) of the studied nurses exhibited a positive professional self-concept, while a small percentage (6.4%) reported a negative professional self-concept.

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Table 1: Distribution of Studied Nurses According to Their Characteristics

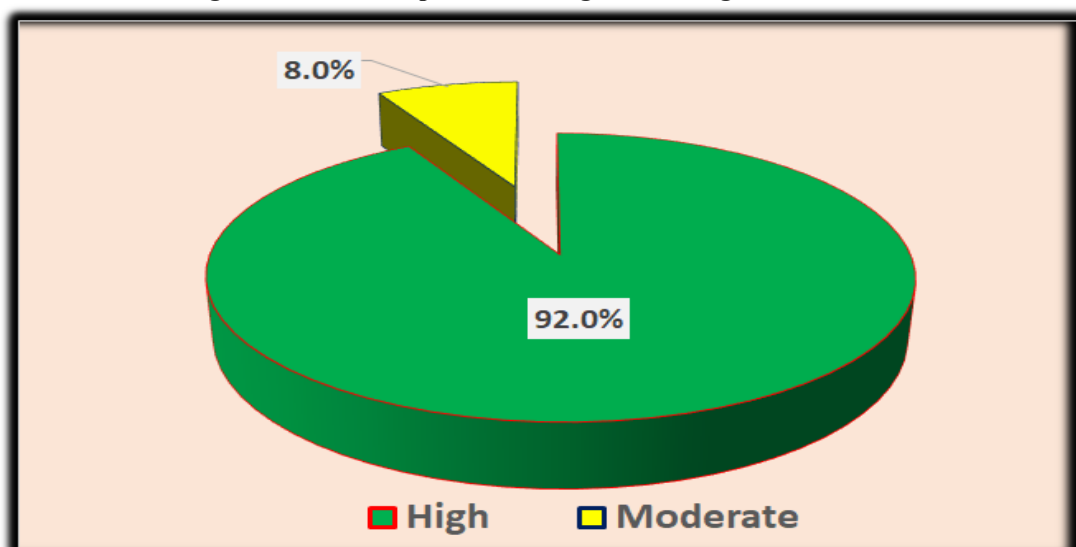
Demographic characteristics	No.	%
Age (years)		
< 25	41	16.4
25:< 35	150	60.0
35:< 45	52	20.8
≥ 45	7	2.8
Mean ± SD	33.97 ± 7.63 years	
Sex		
Male	21	8.4
Female	229	91.6
Marital status		
Married	226	90.4
Un-married	24	9.6
Educational qualification		
Nursing Diploma	17	6.8
Associated Technical Degree of Nursing	72	28.8
Bachelor of Nursing Science	149	59.6
Other Post-graduated Studies	12	4.8
Years of nursing experience		
< 5	42	16.8
5:< 15	151	60.4
15:< 25	53	21.2
≥ 25	4	1.6
Mean ± SD	10.30 ± 8.22 years	
Working hours system (hours)		
8 hrs.	33	13.2
12 hrs.	199	79.6
24 hrs.	18	7.2
Describe the level of religiousness		
Not religious at all	28	11.2
Moderately religious	194	77.6
Very religious	28	11.2
Describe the level of spirituality		
Not spiritual at all	28	11.2
Moderately spiritual	198	79.2
Very spiritual	24	9.6

M= mean SD= standard deviation



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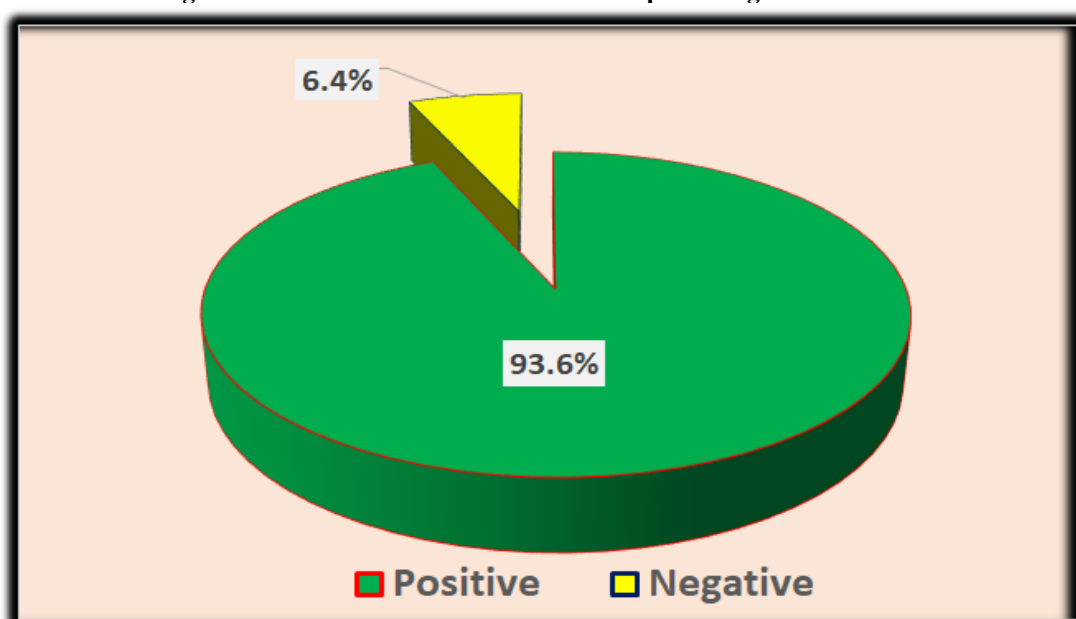
Figure 2: Levels of Spiritual Intelligence Among Studied Nurses



**Table 2: Distribution of Studied Nurses according to Their Levels of Spiritual Intelligence
(n=250)**

Dimensions of spiritual intelligence	High		Moderate		Low	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Critical Existential Thinking (CET)	208	83.2	31	12.4	11	4.4
Personal Meaning Production (PMP)	238	95.2	11	4.4	1	0.4
Transcendental Awareness (TA)	234	93.6	8	3.2	8	3.2
Conscious State Expansion (CSE)	200	80.0	46	18.4	4	1.6
Total	230	92.0	20	8.0	0	0.0

Figure 3: Levels of Professional Self-Concept Among Studied Nurses



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Table 3: Distribution of Studied Nurses according to Their Professional Self-Concept (n=250)

Dimensions of Professional Self-concept	Positive		Negative	
	No.	%	No.	%
Self-Esteem	222	88.8	28	11.2
Knowledge	238	95.2	12	4.8
Caring	234	93.6	16	6.4
Leadership	236	94.4	14	5.6
Staff Relations	235	94.0	15	6.0
Communication	244	97.6	6	2.4
Total	234	93.6	16	6.4

Table 4: Ranking of Studied Nurses Based on Their Mean Scores of Professional Self-Concept (n=250)

Dimensions of Professional Self-concept	Maximum score	Min-Max	Mean \pm SD	Mean %	Ranking
Self-Esteem	18	8-18	16.85 \pm 2.37	93.6	6
Knowledge	18	7-18	17.02 \pm 1.68	94.5	5
Caring	18	8-18	17.23 \pm 2.05	95.7	4
Leadership	18	8-18	17.29 \pm 1.96	96.0	3
Staff Relations	18	7-18	17.41 \pm 1.84	96.7	2
Communication	18	10-18	17.51 \pm 1.27	97.3	1
Total	108	74-108	103.31 \pm 7.96		

Table 5: Correlation Between Total Spiritual Intelligence and Professional Self-Concept Among Studied Nurses (n=250)

Variables	Total professional self-concept	
	r	P value
Total spiritual intelligence	0.890	0.000**

** Highly statistical significance (p<0.001)

Discussion

Nurses play a crucial role in health systems, comprising the largest group of professionals directly involved in service delivery. According to statistics, nurses deliver half of all health care services. The roles of nurses in various areas linked to health care, including counseling, management, education, research, communication, and support, have significantly

enhanced their importance as health care providers. (Shaban & Ibrahim, 2024).

The current study was conducted to determine the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses at Berket-Elsabaa General Hospital through answering the following questions; the 1st question was what is the level of

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spiritual intelligence among nurses? The 2nd question was what is the level of professional self-concept among nurses? The 3rd question was what is the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses.

Regarding the level of spiritual intelligence among studied nurses. The finding of the current study revealed that the vast majority of the studied nurses demonstrated a high level of spiritual intelligence. In contrast, a small percentage reported a moderate level of spiritual intelligence. The vast majority of studied nurses exhibited high levels of perceived spiritual intelligence in the dimensions of Personal Meaning Production and Transcendental Awareness. In contrast, the lowest percentage reported moderate levels of perception in the dimensions of Conscious State Expansion and Critical Existential Thinking.

From the investigator's point of view this might be due to ability to elevate all aspects of life mental, emotional, relational and social, enhancing Self-Awareness, improved relationships, better decision making, enhanced mental and physical well-being, contribution to a better world and problem solving and fulfillment, alignment with universal principles, long-term fulfillment and legacy. Moreover, this may be due to the fact that the Egyptian Ministry of Health provides a set of continuing training and educational programs on developing and increasing awareness of spiritual intelligence and activities to develop the professional competence of

employees All of the above reasons improved their knowledge of the importance of spiritual intelligence and its impact on the quality of nursing care.

This finding was in agreement with Al-Enezi et al (2020), who conducted the study about " Job satisfaction on nurses with multicultural backgrounds in Kuwait", and indicated that staff nurses' spiritual intelligence was high level among staff nurses. Also, total mean score of the vast majority of studied nurses exhibited high levels of perceived spiritual intelligence. Also, The finding is matching with Zhou et al., (2024), who conducted the study about " The relationship between emotional intelligence, spiritual intelligence, and student achievement", The study results showed that most of the subjects had high spiritual intelligence score.

This finding was consistent with Rani et al., (2024) who conducted the study about "the relation between spiritual intelligence and nurse's job performance", the study showed that the nurse's had high level of spiritual intelligence and had better performance in their work.

Additionally, The study finding was in the same line with Ahmadi et al., (2021), who conducted the study about " Perceived professional competence in spiritual care and predictive role of spiritual intelligence in Iranian nursing students ", reported that there was high level spiritual intelligence among nursing students encompassing critical thinking, personal meaning, transcendental awareness, and expanded

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consciousness and the quality of work life.

The finding agreed with Peng & Rauch, (2022), who conducted a study about "the influence of spiritual intelligence on human behavior and mental health and presented that, the participants demonstrated a high level of spiritual intelligence, forgiveness, and empathy, flowing effortlessly. A mind free from pre-conceptions and judgment, enhanced by a multi-angled and multi-level vision of problems, allows for sharp ethical thinking. Such a mind is more adept at communication and possesses the flexibility to adapt to various interpersonal needs in diverse social settings.

The study results were in the same line with Gouda & Meslhy (2021), who conducted the study about "Spiritual Intelligence as a Predictor of Work Engagement and Quality of Work Life among Nurses ", reported that there was a high level of spiritual intelligence resulted in increasing awareness that enables employees to increase their engagement, as well as enhance their ability to work with greater responsibility, ethics, collaboration, and creativity, especially when they perceive significance in their tasks. The study highlighted that spiritual intelligence can positively influence employees' performance by inspiring them to approach their work with a deeper sense of purpose and connection.

In addition, the study finding was inconsistent with the study of Noohi et al.,(2024), who conducted the study about " Spiritual Intelligence and Attitude towards Spirituality and

Spiritual Care in Nursing and Midwifery Students in Iran", reported that the students had moderate levels of spiritual intelligence.

On the other hand, the study contraindicated with Angmo & Singh, (2024), who conducted a study about "Spiritual Intelligence as a Predictor of Work Engagement and Quality of Work Life among Nurses " showed moderate level of spiritual intelligence among nurses related to lack of awareness, ethics, cooperation and empathy.

Also, findings disagreed with Moradi et al., (2018), who conducted the study about " Relationship Between spiritual intelligence and professional ethics of Librarians", the results showed moderate level of spiritual intelligence and life satisfaction. In contrary, this finding contradicts the findings of Ranjber et al.,(2017), who conducted the study about " The relation between academic achievement and spiritual intelligence in Iranian students", shown a low level of spiritual intelligence due to Lack of awareness, knowledge, consciousness and lack of motivation.

Concerning mean score of spiritual intelligence among the studied nurses, the findings of the current study showed that the vast majority of studied nurses exhibited high levels of perceived spiritual intelligence in the dimensions of Personal Meaning Production and Transcendental Awareness. The lowest percentage was moderate levels of perception in the dimensions of Conscious State Expansion and Critical Existential Thinking.

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From the investigator's point of view, this may be due to nurses' ability to stand firm against societal pressures when they conflict with the core principles of life, ability to recognize that all life is interconnected can create a profound sense of responsibility toward others and the environment, ability to find purpose in suffering, challenges, and everyday life. This means that making capacity helps individuals to navigate the complexities of life with a sense of alignment to a greater, transcendent purpose.

The study was congruent with Söylemez & Koç, (2019), who conducted the study about "The Relationship between Spiritual Intelligence and Happiness among Hockey Players ". It was reported that nurses agreed with the statements: "Life is meaningful when lived with a sense of value and purpose" and "I enjoy helping others", the personal meaning production of life and life satisfaction, and that spiritual intelligence has positive effects on the meaning of life and satisfaction with life.

This finding disagreed with Kasler et al. (2022), who conducted the study about "The role of emotional and spiritual intelligences among employee by Journal of American College Health", who revealed that employees with the moderate rating personal meaning production of spiritual intelligence had moderate ratings on life satisfaction. Even while work-family conflict can create dissatisfaction and psychological distress as a result of the combination of these roles, one needs spiritual

intelligence to have self-control, manage conflicts between work and family obligations, and deal with the effects on their career satisfaction.

Also, the findings of the current study revealed that the vast majority of studied nurses exhibited a positive professional self-concept, while a small percentage reported a negative professional self-concept. From the investigator point of view, this result may be related to the cultivation of nurses' professional self-concept was seen as a crucial aspect of shaping their career path, evident in their aspirations for professional growth and sense of identity. Moreover, the availability of advancement opportunities and promotions, educational programs, opportunities to utilize one's skills, and receiving recognition from supervisors. Also this might be due to having positive psychological qualities, such as resilience, and empathy, tend to maintain consistent positive expectations about future outcomes, which then leads to more positive outcomes that enhance their mental health, job satisfaction, professional self-concept.

The present study finding was in the same line with Sahraian et al., (2024), who conducted the study about "Relationship between professional self-concept and perceived organizational support with family functioning in nurses in Isfahan, Iran", revealed a positive professional self-concept among nurses.

The finding of the current study supported by Miao & Li, (2024), who conducted the study about " Nurses' perspectives on professional self-

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concept and its influencing factors", reported high level of professional self-concept related to enhancing nursing knowledge and skills, effective communication and collaboration, self-confidence, and leadership qualities are crucial for boosting a nurse's self-concept.

The finding of the study was matched with Barroso & Dias, (2023), who conducted a study about "Creative Learning Environment and its Relation with Nursing Student's Engagement, Academic Performance and Self-Concept" reported that most of students founded that creative learning environment in the classroom was average level of.

Additionally, Gelaw & Adini, (2023), who conducted the study about Burnout and resilience at work among health professionals serving in tertiary hospitals, in Ethiopia ", shown positive level of Professional Self-concept among nurses that minimize job stress and increase level of job performance. The study finding is congruent with BGuo et al., (2022), who conducted the study on "Professional Self-Concept Model on Work Productivity of Clinical Nurses", where they reported a positive professional self-concept represented by the characteristics of the organization and organizational environment having a significant impact on the professional self-concept of care and establish nurses' professional self-concept regarding care, knowledge, staff relations, and leadership. Satisfaction with the profession, development of competencies and teamwork ability.

This part answers the third research question" What is the relation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept among nurses at Berket El-Sabaa General Hospital?

From the investigator's point of view, this result may be due to improved adaptation to the conditions and work environment of nursing among interested parties, nurses are better able to solve problems and be more flexible when dealing with stressful situations. It appears that those with greater levels of spiritual intelligence are more inclined to apply spiritual resources and adaptive problem-solving techniques to resolve issues in their everyday lives and provide purpose and significance to their daily activities. These individuals also employ more self-control, self-sacrifice, forgiveness, and sanctifying daily affairs, which helps them solve problems more effectively and boosts their professional self-concept. In addition, Spiritual intelligence profoundly influences nurses' beliefs and motivation to grow and enhance their nursing expertise and skills. Nurses who are deeply committed to enhancing their abilities and knowledge will demonstrate a strong ethical standard that motivates them to persist in expanding their expertise and understanding about delivering high-quality nursing services.

Since not many similar studies were found to compare the association of professional self-concept based on spiritual intelligence, the results of the present study were compared with related studies of spiritual intelligence and professional self -concept.

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This study finding was congruent with Hojat & Badipeymaiejahromi, (2021), who conduct the study about "Relationship between Spiritual Intelligence and Professional Self-concept among Iranian Nurses", showed a significant positive relationship between professional self-concept and spiritual intelligence.

This finding was matching with Wiyarni & Murtiningtyas, (2024), who conducted the study about "Spiritual Intelligence as a Moderation Between Professional Ethics and of Public Accountants", demonstrated that there was statistically significant correlation between spiritual intelligence and Professionalism.

Also, The study findings were consistent with Praveeniah et al., (2021), who conducted a study about "Relationship Between Spirituality, Religiosity and Self-concept among nurses in the Klang Valley area", that found a positive relationship between spirituality and self-concept among nurses in the Klang Valley area.

Besides, study finding was congruent with Utami, (2022), who conduct the study about "The Effect of Spiritual Intelligence and Religious Faith on Self-Regulation", who stated that religious beliefs and spiritual intelligence simultaneously and significantly affected self-concept. Additionally, spiritual intelligence partly has a significant effect on self-concept, where the higher the spiritual intelligence, the higher the self-concept, and religious beliefs have a significant positive effect on self-concept.

Conclusion

The study found that most nurses demonstrated high spiritual intelligence and a positive professional self-concept, with only a small percentage reporting moderate or negative levels. There was a strong positive correlation between spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept, and regression analysis showed that spiritual intelligence is a positive predictor of professional self-concept among the nurses.

Recommendations

Based on the study's findings, hospital administrators should support nurses' participation in continuing education, foster environments that promote spiritual development, and motivate nurses to view spiritual intelligence as a tool for managing stress and enhancing their professional self-concept. They should also help nurses to find deeper meaning in their work, provide opportunities for attendance of conferences and courses about spiritual intelligence and professional self-concept, integrate spiritual intelligence into nursing curricula, and conduct workshops for nurses and managers. Additionally, the study suggests replicating the research at other healthcare sectors with larger samples to enable broader generalization.

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