

**INTEGRATED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: THE ROLE OF THE
REGISTERED NURSE**

by

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Submitted in part fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

MASTER OF ARTS IN NURSING SCIENCE

at the

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AFRICA

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DECLARATION

I declare that *Integrated primary health care: The role of the registered nurse* is my own work and that all the sources that I have used have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references and that this work has not been submitted for any other degree at any other institution.

MOHALE MD

30.11.2004

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to thank the following persons for their respective contributions to this dissertation:

- My husband, Kenneth, for his unconditional love, support and encouragement.
- My two children, Kabelo and Karabo, for their support and understanding.
- A special thank you to my supervisor, Dr L De Villiers, for her guidance, support and encouragement.
- My co-supervisor, Mrs LV Monareng, for her support and guidance.
- My colleagues in the Greater Tzaneen sub-district for their willingness to participate in this study.
- Nurse managers in the Greater Tzaneen sub-district, the Mopani district and the Limpopo Provincial Office, for taking time off their busy schedules to participate in the study.
- The Limpopo Province: Department of Health, for giving me permission to conduct the study.

ABSTRACT**INTEGRATED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: THE ROLE OF THE REGISTERED NURSE**

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The purpose of this study was to describe and compare the perceptions of the registered nurses and the nurse managers regarding the role of the registered nurse in integrated primary health care. Quantitative, descriptive research was conducted to determine if there were any discrepancies between role perceptions and role expectations. Data collection was done using structured questionnaires. Two groups of respondents participated in the study. The registered nurse group (n=40) provided direct clinical care in integrated primary health care settings. The second group was composed of nurse managers (n=20) managing integrated primary health care services. The findings revealed that there are some areas where there is lack of congruence between the perceptions of registered nurses and nurse managers regarding the functions that registered nurses perform. These differences may result in confusion and role conflict among registered nurses, which can ultimately impede the attainment of integrated primary health care goals.

KEY TERMS

Comprehensive primary health care; Holistic care; Function; Integrated primary health care; Nurse manager; Perception; Primary health care; Registered nurse; Role.

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