

## **ABSTRACT**

### **Third Year Nursing Students [sic] Use of Problem Based Learning as a Teaching/Learning Strategy: A Mixed Methods Study**

*Valerie Sealey-Tobias*

This study sought to describe third year nursing students' perceptions of the effectiveness of problem-based learning (PBL) as a teaching/learning strategy at a school of nursing in Trinidad. Data were collected through a questionnaire and a multiple choice test administered to 30 nursing students. The findings revealed that most of the students agreed that PBL caused a change in their thinking process. Their responses, when categorized, included themes of enhanced critical thinking skills, better assessment skills, and better information gathering skills. The fact that all the students scored more than 50 percent in the clinical decision test validated the students' perception that PBL had enhanced their decision-making skills.

**Keywords:** Nursing students; Problem based learning; Nursing education; Teaching methods; Trinidad and Tobago