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## The motivation of choosing midwifery field of study and related factors among the midwifery students

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**Introduction:** Motivation is the driving force beyond all human activities. Without motivation, human species are not capable of implementing any planned activity. The more one's motivation is in line with her interests and skill sets, the higher chance the individual has to achieve success in her professional and educational endeavors. This study was performed to determine midwifery students' motivation and related factors about their field.

**Method:** This descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted on all midwifery students who are studying at Islamic Azad University of Rasht in the first semester of academic year 2011-2012. The information was gathered through questionnaire which has two parts, personal information and the questions about motivation for choosing field of study. The data was analyzed by SPSS 16 software using descriptive and analytical statistics.

**Result:** The mean score of students' motivation for choosing field of study was  $49/85 \pm 6/14$  which obtained score was higher than the acceptable score. There were not significant relationship between score of motivation and research variables (job and education of parents, marital status, and university entry quotas, living place, diploma score, economic situation and students' age).

**Conclusion:** The research shows that the students of Midwifery are highly motivated and enjoy great enthusiasm for the study of this academic discipline. Therefore, it is imperative for the authorities to seize this opportunity and make an all-out effort to improve the educational standards of the promising students in order to maximize their productivity.

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