Background
Decision-making is a competence in nursing, emerging as expanding learning area of nursing education. As a fundamental component of nursing practice, learning the skill of Decision Making is essential for nursing students.

Aims
The aim of this study was to investigate the nursing students’ decision making after a three-year training course, on NANDA-I, NOC and NIC taxonomies with different teaching methodologies.

Methods
A descriptive method was used. The Instruments used in this study were: a socio-demographic questionnaire and the validated Italian version of the Nursing Decision Making Instrument (NDMI) developed by Lauri and Salanterä, administered to students who met the inclusion criteria.

Results
The sample included 98 students, 29.59% male, 70.40% female with an average age of 23.8 years. The 47% of students show clinical decision-making skills in the analytical category, 51% in the quasi-rational category and 2% in the intuitive-interpretative category.

Conclusions
Research indicates that students’ clinical decision making abilities are mainly present in the quasi-rational category, is flexible and depending on the situation. The results obtained must be considered for the implementation of innovative teaching methodologies that support the improvement of nursing students’ clinical decision-making skills.

References (synthesis)
Lauri S, Salanterä S. Developing an instrument to measure and describe clinical decision making in different nursing fields. J Prof Nurs.2002; 18(2): 93-100;

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