

Evaluation of Nurses' Attitudes towards Patients' End of life in Diyala Governorate

تقويم اتجاهات الممرضين نحو نهاية حياة المرضى في محافظة ديالى

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المستخلص:

الاهداف: تقويم اتجاهات الممرض/ة تجاه مرحلة نهاية الحياة، ومعرفة العلاقة بين مواقف الممرضات وبياناتهم الديموغرافية كالعمر والجنس ومستوى التعليم وسنوات الخبرة في مجال التمريض
منهجية البحث: تم إجراء دراسة وصفية مقطعية لتقويم اتجاهات الممرضات فيما يتعلق مرحلة نهاية حياة المرضى في وحدات الرعاية الحرجة للفترة من ١ تشرين الثاني ٢٠٢١ إلى ١ شباط ٢٠٢٢. تم اخذ العينات بصورة عشوائية باستخدام أسلوب الاحتمالية البسيطة لاختيار الممرضين باستخدام قوائم الملاك التمريضي كإطار لأخذ العينات. ثم تم تحديد عدد المشاركين في كل مستشفى والذي تم اختياره بطريقة عشوائياً في كل من مستشفى بعقوبة التعليمي ومستشفى الخالص العام في ديالى. كان إجمالي عدد الممرضين (١٠٠) يعملون في ردهات وحدات الرعاية الحرجة خلال فترة الدراسة واستوفوا معايير الدراسة ووافقوا على المشاركة فيها. تم استبعاد المشاركين في الدراسة التجريبية (١٠) ممرضين من الدراسة الرئيسية. تم عمل دراسة تجريبية مكونة من (١٠) ممرضين وكانت نتيجة ثبات الاستبانة (٧٩٪). تحقق صدق محتوى المقياس من قبل لجنة مكونة من (١٤) خبيراً. استخدم الإحصاء الوصفي والاستدلالي لتحليل نتائج الدراسة.

النتائج: أظهرت النتائج في هذه الدراسة أن مستوى اتجاهات الملاك التمريضي العاملين في مدينة ديالى في العراق تجاه رعاية نهاية الحياة كان معتدلاً. ولا يوجد فروق كبيرة بين اتجاهات الممرضين تجاه رعاية المرضى المحتضرين و(عدد الدورات التدريبية، ومجال العمل).

الاستنتاجات: كان مستوى اتجاهات الممرضين نحو رعاية نهاية الحياة معتدلاً، لا توجد فروق كبيرة بين اتجاهات الممرضين تجاه رعاية المرضى المحتضرين و(عدد الدورات التدريبية، ومجال العمل)
التوصيات: ضرورة تطوير التعليم أو التدريب والذي يؤدي الى إحداث تغيير في السلوك، التحقيق في العلاقة بين الدين والروحانيات للممرضين وموقفهم تجاه رعاية نهاية الحياة
الكلمات المفتاحية: اتجاهات الممرض/ة، رعاية نهاية الحياة، مرحلة نهاية الحياة

Abstract:

Objectives: This study aimed to assess nurses' attitude toward end-of-life phase and to find out the relationships between nurses' attitude and their sociodemographic characteristics (age, gender, level of education, years of experience).

Methodology: A descriptive cross-sectional study design was carried out to assess the attitude on nurses concerning patient at the end-of-life phase in critical care units from the period of 1st November 2021 to 1st February 2022. Probability sampling of (100) nurses working in critical care units agree to participate in a study in Baquba Teaching Hospital and general Al-Khalis hospital and were selected randomly. A Pilot study of ten nurses was conducted to find out the reliability (0.79). The questionnaire content validity is obtained by a panel of (14) experts. The following procedures are used to analyze the gathered data: descriptive and inferential statistics.

Results: The study results revealed that more than half (51%) of nurse's were fair level of attitude towards end-of-life care of nurses who work in Diyala city in Iraq and remaining (poor 0%, good 49%). There was no significant difference between (nurses number of training course, and area of employment) and attitude care of the dying patient.

Conclusions: The nurses have a moderate(fair) level of attitude toward end of life care, and there are no significant differences between (nurses number of training course, and area of employment) and attitude care of the dying patient.

Recommendations: The recommended of study is necessity of evolving education as well as training that can enhance nurse's behavior toward end of life care, investigate relationship among religion and spiritual of nurses and their attitude toward end-of-life care.

Keywords: nurses' attitudes, end-of-life care, end-of-life phase

Introduction

Nurses' attitudes toward death and nurses' willingness to administer end of life care may impact the care they provided to the end of life or patients dying ⁽¹⁾. The factor that determined attitudes about death and dying depended not only on the value orientation, culture, society, and religion but also in the individual perception and attitudes personal to dead and end of life phase ⁽²⁾.

Patient death often leads to anxiety and unwanted attitudes among nurses that can effect of patient care quality. Communicate with palliative and terminal illness patients may be deliberate through the attitude of nurse. The quality of care is more highly depended on the professional desire of both of them physicians and nurses to give EOL care. Numerous of nurses will not have experience conducting interviews or care with for a dying person. dead can occur anywhere and at is any of the time imperative that all nurses registered regardless of where they working have the EOL care well training ⁽³⁾.

Nurse's general felt uncomfortable speak about EOL problems or patient's issues and their loved ones. Based on the scientific literature, this trend is similar in various cultures ⁽⁴⁾.

Nurse personal attitude toward dead are correlate the attitude toward care for dying patients. Training as well as educational

programs for clinical nurses should taking into account nurses personal attitude toward death as well as their cultural backgrounds and religious belief ⁽⁵⁾.

Researchers confirm that nurses' positive attitude in caring for dying patient can be impact by on the nurses' demographic characteristics, experience, and previous education. Nurses with more experience dealing with dying patient felt more convinced and have a more positive attitude in supply end of life care ⁽⁶⁾.

Effective palliative care and EOL coaching nurses can positive affect there is able to administered standard high-quality care with respect, acceptance, and honesty. Furthermore, little Taiwanese research have indicated nurses' attitudes toward the give palliative care and end of life care(EOL) and the relationship between these attitudes and nurses' competence in giving care to EOL patients. For the current study we used a previously evolved competency and attitude scale to screen or investigate clinical nurses ⁽⁷⁾.

Methodology

A descriptive cross-sectional study design was carried out to assess the attitude on nurses concerning patient at the end of life phase at critical care units from the period of 1st

November 2021 to 1st February 2022. Probability sampling of (100) nurses working in critical care units agree to participate in the study in Baquba Teaching Hospital and general Al-Khalis hospital were selected (cardiac care, respiratory care, emergency care, intensive care units). Pilot study of ten nurses were selected to determine reliability which was (0.79), questionnaire of study consist of two parts; Part I: The first part nurse's demographic characteristics include the age, gender, level of education, work experience in nursing, work experience in critical, palliative care training, number of training, work unit critical. Part II: The Second part of the data collection tool was adopted from the Frommelt Attitudes Towards Care of the Dying (FATCOD) used to assess nurses' attitude toward the dying patients care.

The formulated attitude toward care of dying scale is a 25-item tool applied a 5-point Likert scale to indicate respondents' attitudes toward caring for dying patients range of from strongly disagree to strongly agree: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = unsure, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree. Possible scores ranging of from 25 to 125. The questionnaire content validity is obtained by a panel of (14) experts. the following procedures are used to analyze the data gathered: descriptive and inferential statistics. after the approval of the consultant of the College of Nursing upon the study, researcher

has submitted description including the objectives and protocol of the study to the central statistical organization in the ministry of planning as well as to Technical section in Diyala health directorate to get official permissions to carry out the study. other permit is obtained from the Ministry of Health, Diyala health directorate.

Results

Table (1): Demographic Characteristic Distribution of the Nurses Staff

(n = 100)

List	Demographic Characteristics of Nurses' Staff	F	%	
1	Gender	Male	58	58.0
		Female	42	42.0
		Total	100	100.0
2	Age :	20-29 years	74	74.0
		30 – 39 years	20	20.0
		40 – 49 years	5	5.0
		≥50 years	1	1.0
		Total	100	100.0
3	Level of education	High School of Nursing Graduate	10	10.0
		Institute Nursing Graduate (Diploma Degree)	46	46.0
		College Nursing Graduate (Bachelor's Degree)	43	43.0
		Postgraduate	1	10.0
		Total	100	100.0
4	Years of Experience in Nursing Field	1-5 Years	66	66.0
		6-10 Years	21	21.0
		11-15 Years	8	8.0
		16-20 Years	1	1.0
		(21 & more) Years	4	4.0
		Total	100	100.0
5	Years of Experience in Critical Care Unit	1-5 Years	85	85.0
		6-10 Years	13	13.0
		11-15 Years	1	1.0
		16-20 Years	1	1.0
		Total	100	100.0
6	Participation in training course	Yes	27	27.0
		No	73	73.0
		Total	100	100.0
7	Number of training Course	Non	73	73.0
		1-3	15	15.0

		4-6	12	12.0
		Total	100	100.0
8	Area of employment	RCU	17	17.0
		ICU	22	22.0
		EM unit	33	33.0
		CCU	28	28.0
		Total	100	100.0

F: Frequency, %: Percentage

The finding of such characteristics depicts that more than of(100) nurses who are working at the end of life phase in Critical Care Units are young male (58.0%) with age group 20-29 years old (74.0%), and institute nursing graduate (diploma degree) (46.0%); many of them have (1-5 Years) of experience in nursing field (66.0%) and (1-5) years of experience in critical care unit (85.0%); only 27.0% of them participation in training course; many of them non number of training course (73.0%); many of them working in EM unit (33.0%).

Table (2): Overall Evaluation of the Nurses' Attitude Toward Patients' End of Life (n = 100).

Overall Assessment of the Nurses' Attitude		
Scale	F	%
1. Poor (25-58.33)	0	(0.0%)
2. Fair (58.34 -91.66)	51	(51.0%)
3. Good (91.67-125)	49	(49.0%)
Total	100	100.0

F: Frequency, %: Percentage

Results out of this table, illustrate that most of the nurses have experienced fair level attitudes on the dying Patient (51.0%), and good on the remaining (49.0 %).

Table (3): The Relationship Between Nurses Attitude Toward Dying Patient Care with their Socio Demographic Characteristics (n = 100). By using ANOVA

List	Items		Scale		Total	df	P ≤ 0.05	Sig
			Mode rate	Hig h				
1	(nurses' attitude * gender)	Male	33(56.9)	25 (43.1)	58	2	.166	N.S
		Female	18(42.9)	24(57.1)	42			
2	(nurses' attitude *age)	20-29 y	35(47.3)	39(52.7)	74	3	.000	Sig
		30 –39 y	12(60.0)	8(40.0)	20			
		40 –49 y	3(60.0)	2(40.0)	5			
		≥ 50 y	1(100.0)	0(0.0)	1			
3	(Nurses' Attitude* Level of education)	School	4(40.0)	6(60.0)	10	3	.010	Sig
		Diploma	24(52.2)	22(47.8)	46			
		College	22(51.2)	21(48.8)	43			
		Postgradu ate	1(100.0)	0(0.0)	1			
	(Nurses' Attitude* Years of experience in nursing field)	1-5 Y	34(51.5)	32 (48.5)	66	4	.046	Sig
		6-10 Y	9(42.9)	12(57.1)	21			
		11-15 Y	4(50.0)	4(50.0)	8			
		16-20 Y	0(0.0)	1(100.0)	1			
		21& more	4(100.0)	0(0.0)	4			
4	(Nurses' Attitude* Years of experience in critical care unit)	1-5 Y	45(52.9)	40(47.1)	85	3	.014	Sig
		6-10 Y	4(30.8)	9(69.2)	13			
		11-15 Y	1(100.0)	0(0.0)	1			
		16-20 Y	1(100.0)	0(0.0)	1			
5	(Nurses' Attitude* Participation in training course)	Yes	15(53.6)	13(46.4)	28	1	.036	Sig
		No	36(50.0)	36(50.0)	72			

6	(Nurses' Attitude * Number of training course)	Non	37(50.7)	36(49.3)	73	2	.510	N.S
		1-3	8(53.3)	7(46.7)	15			
		4-6	6(50.0)	6(50.0)	12			
7	(Nurses' Attitude* Area of employment)	RCU	5(29.4)	12(70.6)	17	3	.394	N.S
		ICU	13(59.1)	9(40.9)	22			
		EM unit	19(57.6)	14(42.4)	33			
		CCU	14(50.0)	14(50.0)	28			

df: Degree of freedom, P: Probability value, Sig.: Significant, N.S: Not Significant, MS= Mean of Scores, moderate= (mean of Scores =1.67-3.32), High= (mean of Scores = 3.33-5).

Results found out in this table indicate, that there is a significant relationship among nurses gender, age, level of education, years of employment, years of experience in critical care unit, participation in training course, number of training course, what is your Source of information about palliative care for dying patient and their attitude toward care of the dying patient in all items except (nurses attitude, number of training course and area of employment).

Discussion

Table (1)

Study results found that high percentage of participant were male 58 (58.0%), while the age group are 20-29 years old (74.0%), of the sample. This may be explained more than of nurses are younger. this result agrees with the study in Palestine stated in this study, the major of respondent 71 (74%) are within the age of 20 - 30 year followed by 19(19.8%) are of 31-40 years, 4(4.2%) were of 41-50 years, and 2(2.1%) are above of 50 years older and gender More of the male 66(68.8%) than female 30(31.2%).⁽⁸⁾

This result agrees with study was applied all of the 372 nurses of hospital in wollega zone cross sectional study. The age of participant range of from 20 to 58 years, with a mean age of 29.23 ± 5.52 . More than half (57.3%) of the participant nurses are male⁽⁹⁾.

This result similar to that found in other study applied in Iraq the majority of the nurses' participants in the present study on both study and control groups are in the age group from (20 - 29) years in Iraq.⁽¹⁰⁾

Related to the level of education, the high percentage were institute nursing graduate (diploma degree) (46. 0%).this result dis agrees with the study conduct in Palestine

The participants of majority were prepared to baccalaureate degree of education 56(58.3%)⁽⁸⁾.

This finding had been disagreed with study by kim et.al cross sectional findings the results show a high percentage of nurses (75.5%) of them had a bachelor's degree (university)⁽¹¹⁾.

In this study locate the number of years in the nursing field. The study findings present that the majority of the sample many of them have (1-5 Years) of experience in nursing field (66.0%). This result disagrees with the study finding in wollega zone cross sectional study (1-5 Years) of experience in nursing field 196 (52.7%).⁽⁹⁾

As finding discussion number of years in the nursing field, this study found out that the majority of the sample (35%) in the study group were within from 1-5 years' experience in the nursing field in Iraq.⁽¹⁰⁾

The result clarified of the study the majority (1-5) years of experience in critical care unit (85.0%). When the result of the study showed the majority of both on control and study group were nurses who had (1-5 years) of the experience in the current workplace (60%) and (55%) of nurses in the study and control groups respectively.⁽¹⁰⁾

Also, the present study shows that the majority only 27.0% of them participation in training course; many of them non-number of training course (73.0%). this result disagrees with the study in Palestine participant are

asked to register if they have receive training about palliative care, findings demonstrate that more than half of the sample have obtain training course 57(59.4%) and the major of them 33(57.9%) for less than one week⁽⁸⁾.

This finding has been stated in this study that the results show a high percentage of nurses 35 (83.3%) non, 43(42.2) yes, palliative or EOL care with the most course (83.3%) having a length of eight or fewer hour in Seoul Korea⁽¹¹⁾.

The study results demonstration that the majority many them working in Area of employment Emergency (EM) unit (33.0%). This finding has been stated in this study that the results show a high percentage of nurse's participant 55 (53.9%) in ICU units in seoul korea.⁽¹¹⁾

Deborah m. etal. (91) percent of the nurses who participated in the study (51) sample percent of the pediatric in intensive care unit nurses have been in their current practice longitude than ten years, compression within 36% of the adult in intensive care units' nurses, 28% of the adult acute care nurses, and 38% of the pediatric acute care nurses⁽¹²⁾.

Table (2)

The result of the illustrate that the most of the nurses have experienced moderate(fair) level of attitude about palliative care on the dying Patient 51(51.0%).

The attitude description of scores showed that 56.2% of them have moderate attitude on the dying Patient towards

palliative care. demonstrate that the most respondent attitudes level across palliative care are moderate of attitude 54 (56.2%), 36 (37.5%) poor of attitude and 6(6.2%) of good level attitude in Palestine stated ⁽⁸⁾.

This finding is agree with Kassa et al in Ethiopia that of 259 (76%) have favorable of attitude about palliative care. ⁽¹³⁾.

The description attitudes conduct by Karkada et al findings 92.8% of nurse student have a favorable of attitude (56.7 ± 8.5) across palliative care. ⁽¹⁴⁾.

A cross-sectional study by kim et al findings their attitude toward palliative care was moderate (87.97 ± 6.93 , range: 30–120) ⁽¹¹⁾

Table (3)

study showed in this table that there is a significant difference among nurses' gender, age, level of education, years of employment, years of experience in critical care unit, participation in training course, number of training course, what is your Source of information about palliative care for dying patient and their attitude about care of the dying patient in all items except (nurses' attitude, number of training course and area of employment).

A multi-center cross-sectional study in Wollega zones. The findings of the study show that nurses attitude towards EOL care is significantly associated with the nurses who had palliative care service experience a study similar to mine stated that nurses who reading sources about palliative care (brochures, articles). While nurses who

reading articles/brochures toward palliative care are 1.94 times more likely displayed a positive attitude than nurses who did not reading brochures /articles toward Pc. when provide Nurses who have care for a smaller number of terminal illness patient are 1.74 times more likely demonstrate a positive attitude towards end-of-life care ⁽⁹⁾.

Study result of the experience, attitudes, and impact of caring for dying patients by undergraduate Argentinian nursing students can compare nurses' attitude toward end of life care have no significantly association on longitude of duration in the work of nursing professional experience. the contrast is dispute that nurses' attitude about death and dying are positively impacted by experience ⁽¹⁵⁾.

Conclusions

The nurses have moderate(fair) level of attitude toward end of life care, and there is no significant difference between nurses' number of training course, area of employment and attitude toward care of the dying in critical care units. this study emphasizes the need to develop palliative care services.

Recommendations

The recommended of study is necessity of evolving education as well as training that can enhance nurse's behavior toward end of life care. investigate relationship among religion and spiritual of nurses and their attitude toward end-

of-life care. nurses read articles about palliative care.

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