

Assessment of Undergraduate Critical Care Nursing Students' Knowledge and Attitudes toward Caring of Dying Patients In Colleges of Nursing at Baghdad University

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Abstract

Nurses have played various roles in the development of palliative care, offering leadership, support and focus for the movement. Experiences of death on a clinical placement by nursing students were a major cause of anxiety and sadness.

Objectives: To assess of students' knowledge toward care of dying patient and to find out the relationship between students' knowledge and their demographical characteristic such as age, gender, post level of education.

Methodology: A descriptive study was conducted in the period of December 10th 2018 up to the end of 5th May 2019. A non-probability (purposive) sample of (100) student at college of nursing from different post educational levels, both sexes (males and females), were selected. The data collected was analyzed using SPSS version 17.0.

Results: the majority of the study were male who accounted for (58%) of the total participants while female constituted (42%). Most of the study participants (98%) were ages (21-30) years old. (90%) of the student were secondary school graduate. Nanty three percent of the student were married and sixty nine percent were sufficient.

Conclusions: The undergraduate critical cares nursing students were adequately prepared to care for terminally ill and dying patients as they had deficiency in some knowledge about palliative care but their knowledge towards palliative care was good.

Keywords: Assessment, Undergraduate Critical Care Nursing Students Knowledge, Attitudes, Dying Patients

Introduction

Palliative care is considered, and will remain, a vital part of the duties of nursing. Nurses are members of the most respected computer team who are involved in physical, functional, social and spiritual care areas. Usually, when working in the field of health care, it is the face of the death of the patient, and specifically, most of the patients in critical care units die. Therefore, critical

care nurses play (CCNs) a key role in palliative care and end of life, and they are responsible for knowing how to take care of patients who die properly⁽¹⁾. Although there is an indication of the value of PC support, and a number of workers in the field of health care available to provide PC are insufficient to meet the needs of patients and their families through a lifetime, adjust the course of the disease and health care. One important factor affecting the success of the delivery of your computer is to know the attitudes of nurses and provide care for patients who are dying⁽²⁾. As part of the American Basics Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for the education of baccalaureate and peaceful death document, it has been identified specific objectives and guidelines to ensure

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efficiency in the computer before graduation ⁽³⁾. There is no doubt that the value of personal computers in CCN networks that provide the majority of care for patients with diseases do not end, studies have been conducted in the past to study the attitudes of nurses towards the care of death, but only a little is not made of research focused specifically on CCNs. Moreover, a number of authors discussed the lack of research in the attitudes of nurses towards students with disabilities. Therefore, there is a need to support education and nursing students in critical care (UCCNS) to provide high-quality computers ⁽⁴⁾.

Methodology

A cross-sectional descriptive and analytical study: Assessment of Undergraduate Critical Care Nursing Students' Attitudes toward Caring of Dying Patients In colleges of Nursing at Baghdad University. This study was conducted at college of nursing between December 8th 2018 up to the end of 10th May 2019. A tool of knowledge questionnaire was developed and distributed to the participants in this study. The sample consisted of (100) student at four stage college of nursing .A questionnaire- interview format was designed and

developed by the researcher for the purpose of the study; such development was employed through the available literature, clinical background and interview with student . All the items were measured on scale of (2) indicates that the know 1, don't know 0.The questionnaire consisted of (3) parts. Part I: Demographic Information Sheet. Part II: Undergraduate Critical Care Nursing Students' knowledge Sheet. Part III: Undergraduate Critical Care Nursing Students' Attitudes Sheet. Rating scale was used to rate the frequency and extension of the problems. The content validity of the instrument was established through a panel of (10) experts. The data were collected by using the questionnaire structured format through interview and inspection technique for nursing student Attitudes toward Caring of Dying Patients. Each student was interviewed personally by the researcher. Throughout each interview explanation of the study was held up with student in order to accept participation. The determination was conducted during the period from January 29th to the 9th April 2019.The data were analyzed through descriptive data analysis and inferential data analysis the data were analyzed through the use of Statistical Package of Social Sciences (SPSS) version (17).

Results

Table (1) Mean of Score of Nursing student knowledge domain concerning of Dying Patient.

No	Items	True	False	SD	MS	A.D
1	Palliative care is only appropriate if there is evidence of deterioration of the patient's health status	66	34	.476	.66	G
2	Morphine more widely used compared to other sedatives and opioid	69	31	.465	.69	G
3	The duration of the disease determines the methods of treatment for pain.	73	27	.446	.73	G
4	Treatments help in the task of dealing with pain	93	7	.256	.93	G
5	Keep family members next to the patient until death	79	21	.409	.79	G
6	The fluid imbalance in the body reduces the patient's need for sedatives	42	58	.496	.42	p
7	Giving morphine for a long time causes addiction	84	16	.368	.84	G
8	People who take sedatives need a diet	80	20	.402	.80	G
9	Palliative care requires separation of side feelings from work	64	36	.482	.64	G
10	Medications that cause stop breathing are suitable for acute respiratory distress	56	44	.499	.56	G
11	Palliative care philosophy is compatible with the philosophy of aggressive therapy	37	63	.485	.37	P
12	The use of sedatives appropriate some types of pain	85	15	.359	.85	G

Cont... Table (1) Mean of Score of Nursing student knowledge domain concerning of Dying Patient.

13	High dose of codeine causes more nausea and vomiting compared to morphine	74	26	.441	.74	G
14	Suffering and physical pain are synonymous	86	14	.349	.86	G
15	Demerol is not an effective analgesic in controlling chronic pain	56	44	.499	.56	G
16	Chronic pain signs differ from acute pain.	83	17	.378	.83	G
17	The loss of someone far from the family is less sad than losing a family member	87	13	.338	.87	G
18	Men are more sad than women when they lose a person	53	47	.502	.53	G
19	It is necessary to bring man of religion to the patient dying.	75	22	.435	.75	G
	Total	1324	555	.425	.70	G

A.D: Assessment Degree, M.s=mean of score [(0 - .4.49) = poor (P); (5.0 - 1) = good(G).

Table (2) Mean of Score of Nursing student Attitudes domain concerning of Dying Patient.

No	Items	Agree	Disagree	SD	MS	A.D
1	Giving care to the dying person is a worthwhile experience	90	10	.328	.88	P
2	The nurse should not be the one to talk about death with the dying person.	85	15	.465	.69	P
3	Death is not the worst thing that can happen to a person.	64	36	.402	.80	P
4	It is beneficial for the dying person to verbalize his/her feelings.	84	16	.499	.44	N
5	The dying person should not be allowed to make decisions about his/her physical care	47	53	.494	.41	N
6	I would be uncomfortable talking about impending death with the dying person.	89	11	.328	.88	P
7	I would not want to care for a dying person	74	26	.465	.69	P
8	The length of time required giving care to a dying person would frustrate me.	32	68	.402	.80	P
9	It is difficult to form a close relationship with the dying person	53	47	.499	.44	N
10	Caring for the patient's family should continue throughout the period of grief and bereavement.	75	25	.328	.88	P
11	The family should be involved in the physical care of the dying person	66	34	.465	.69	P
12	Educating families about death and dying is not a nurse responsibility	39	61	.494	.41	N
	Total	798	402	.430	.667	p

A.D: Assessment Degree, M.s=mean of score [(0 –4.9) = negative (N); (5.0 – 1) =positive (P)

Table (3): Association between (Gender, Age, Past Level of Education,) and student knowledge domain.

Nurses knowledge Gender	Poor	Good	Total	c2-obs.	Sig.
male	8	34	42	3.406a	NS
female	4	54	58		
Total	12	88	100		
c2criti.=3.841 df=1 p ≤ 0.05					
Nurses knowledge Age	Poor	Good	Total	c2-obs.	Sig.
21- 30	12	86	98	0.278a	NS
31- 40	0	2	2		
Total	12	88	100		
c=3.841 df=1 p ≤ 0.05					

²criti. c²-obs= Chi-square observation , df= degree of freedom ,p= p value, ≤ 0.05=significant, ≤0.01=high significant ,c²criti= Chi-square critical.

This table shows that there is no significant difference between (Gender, Age, and Past Level of Education) and student knowledge domain.

Discussion

Through the course of the data analysis of the present study the finding showed that the majority (58%) of the study were female while the remaining was male. The highest percentage of age group in present study (98%) were (21-30) years old and lowest percentage (2%) were (31- 40) years old .Concerning Marital status and past level of education, (93%) from the sample were single, most of them are (90%) secondary school graduate. monthly income for study sample were (69%) barely sufficient income.

This finding supported by Paolo and Lorys, (2014). who shows that the 82 participant students, 22 (26.8%) were males and 60 (73.2%) were females. The mean age was 21.46 (SD = 1.13) ⁽⁵⁾.

The result of accurate study that show of dying patient domain in table (2) for student nurses knowledge

are poor in items(The fluid imbalance in the body reduces the patient’s need for sedatives and Palliative care philosophy is compatible with the philosophy of aggressive therapy).The mean of score is good at all dying patient domains.

This finding is disagrees by Chari, et al, (2016), which that that 48.48% of students had average knowledge prior to the workshop while 6.06% had good knowledge, whereas, 45.45% had poor knowledge. After the intervention, none of the students were with poor or average knowledge ⁽⁶⁾.

The result of accurate study that show Table (2) the total nursing student’ attitude toward caring of patient dying, which indicated that nursing student’ had positive attitude , with respect to the total mean of score (MS) which was (.667).

The findings of the study disagree with result obtained from other study who reported that Findings from the present study suggest a need for end-of-life care nursing education in Italy. The preliminary results concerning the psychometrics of the scale suggest that the Italian version of the FATCOD-B could be in need of revision. The implications for practice are discussed. ⁽⁷⁾.

Age, gender and Level of education in comparison of the respondents total Student Nurses knowledge domain in table (3) , there was non-significant between Age (c^2 obs=.519^a, df=2, $p \leq 0.05$) , gender(c^2 obs=.519^a, df =2, $p \leq 0.05$) , past Level of Education (c^2 -obs=5.886^adf=2, $p \leq 0.05$) with Student nurses knowledge domains.

This finding is supported by Paolo and Lorry's, (2014), who reported that no significant differences ($p = .857$) were found between male (114.93 ± 7.78) and female (115.28 ± 7.97) students⁽¹²⁾.

Another study agreement by suad, (2017). Show that no significant differences were found between the studied UCCNSs' age and sex and their total knowledge score ($P = 0.422$ and 0.70 respectively)⁽⁸⁾.

Conclusions

This study demonstrates that, despite good nurse's student knowledge and positive attitudes regarding caring of dying patient. Based on the results and conclusions of the present study; the researcher recommends To integrate palliative care education within critical care nursing course to better prepare novel graduates for the inevitable care prepare the best graduates of the novel to take care of the inevitability of a patient of a terminally ill patient.

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Conflict of Interest: None declared.

Ethical approval: The study was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee.

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