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A survey to identify interested rehabilitation nursing topics among nurses for developing a rehabilitation nursing journal club

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Introduction

With the rapid changes in rehabilitation care delivery and the great demand of quality rehabilitation patient care, the rehabilitation nurse need to stay continuously abreast of the current evidence-based practices (EBP) in rehabilitation care provision. However, keeping up with most updated knowledge can be a difficult task, especially when there are constraints in manpower, time and resources for nurses nowadays to assess research evidence. The plan to form a rehabilitation nursing journal club in our Rehabilitation Department is one way for connecting research to practice. Its focus is to offer opportunities for collaboration, deeper clinical inquiry and enhanced learning for all participants. To develop a department-wide nursing journal club, a rehabilitation nursing club is recently set up to consolidate the knowledge of rehabilitation nursing and research for participants. The scope of rehabilitation nursing is very wide, including elimination, communication, dysphagia, disability, neuropathophysiology, pain, sexuality, skin and wound care and so on. Hence, it is essential to identify their education needs first. This paper is to find out the most interested rehabilitation nursing topics of nurses through a voluntary participation survey.

Objectives

To identify the most interested rehabilitation nursing topics among rehabilitation nurses for designing the nursing program and developing the coming rehabilitation nursing journal club.

Methodology

A questionnaire with 14 rehabilitation nursing topics and one open-end question of "other interested topics" is employed. All nurses in Department of Rehabilitation are invited through ward managers to complete the questionnaire under voluntary participation. Results were then categorized as the top five interested topics and the least three interested topics.

Result

Within the period from 15 Jan to 8 Feb of 2013, 101 completed questionnaires are collected from 6 wards and SOPD. Response rate is 50%. The top five interested

topics are: skin and wound care (53, 52.5%), neuropathophysiology (32, 31.7%), communication (31, 30.7%), rehabilitation (26, 25.7%) and patient education (22, 21.8%). The least three interested topics are: safe handling (5, 5%), sexuality (6, 5.9%), and others (6, 5.9%). Conclusion: The identified interested topics were unexpected. It is considered that our nurses have to care many patients with wound, neurological and communication problems everyday so they may have rich experience and good confidence. The result implies the nurses' inner needs for consolidation of their knowledge and skills and for more advanced knowledge of those topics despite of the working experiences. The identification of the education needs and the learning interest is encouraging and very useful for us to plan and to develop the nursing education program as well as the future rehabilitation nursing journal club.