

Knowledge and Practices of Nurses about End of Life Nursing Care for Critically Ill Patients, at El-Manial University Hospital: A Suggested Intervention Protocol

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Abstract

Background: Critical care death represents the majority of hospital's deaths, with more than half million death each year so the critical care nurses (CCNs) has an important and integral contribution to make in the provision and enhancement of end - of - life (EOL) care through their varied roles in practice, research, education, administration and policy. Aim of study: the aim of study was to assess knowledge and practices of nurses about EOL care for critically ill patient. Methods: An exploratory descriptive survey design was utilized. Sample of the study: A samples of 70 nurses were selected from (El - Manial University) hospital to be included in the study. Setting: This study was conducted in three CCNs at CCD (Sherif Mokhtar Unit) Tools: Two tools were utilized by the researcher for data collection, I- The first tool was, knowledge questionnaire sheet consists of two main sections, (a) the first section is concerned with demographic data and (b) the second section concerned with knowledge of nurses about EOL nursing care for critically ill patient. II- The second tool was: Observational check list sheet related to the practices of nurses about EOL nursing care for critically ill patient contain eight domains in EOL care. Results: The present study revealed that, there was a lack in the nurse's knowledge and practice regarding end of life nursing care in critical care units among study sample. Conclusions: It is recommended that, provided an educational program regarding end of life nursing care for nurses in the selected critical care unites.

Key words: end of life care, critically ill patient, palliative care.

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