

Attitudes toward end-of-life care among community health care providers and its influencing factors-A cross-sectional study

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Abstract

A majority of nurses struggled with a negative emotion of anger, doubt, fear, or anxious, uncomfortable in the face of death and dying. However, little was known about community health care providers' in China. Therefore, we conducted a study to investigate their attitudes toward end-of-life care and analyze its influencing factors. To provide reference for developing effective strategies to promote end-of-life care in China. A total of 132 community health care providers of 10 community health care centers in Changzhi city were investigated by a Questionnaire of Attitudes toward Caring for the Dying from May, 2017 to December, 2017, and data was analyzed by SPSS 22.0 software. The average score of attitudes was 3.47 (SD=0.44). There was a significant relationship between community health care providers' attitudes toward death and attitudes toward end-of-life care ($r=0.282, P<0.01$). The significant predictors of attitudes toward end-of-life care were attitudes toward death ($\beta=0.342$), experiences of the death of relatives ($\beta=0.207$), experiences of caring for the dying ($\beta=0.185$), and working experience ($\beta=0.171$). Community health care providers had positive attitudes toward end-of-life care, but they lacked professional knowledge and skills of caring for the terminal patients. It is imperative to set up palliative care courses and life-death education courses, establish an indigenous end-of-life care model, and improve policies, systems, and laws to promote end-of-life care.

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