

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

Hong-ruì Shi<sup>1</sup>, Ying Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Bai-feng Shan<sup>1</sup>, Qian Chen<sup>1</sup>, Xiu-ying Hu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sichuan University, PR China



### Abstract

**BACKGROUND:** 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.

**METHODS:** 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.

**RESULTS:** 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 ( $\beta=0.171$ ).

**CONCLUSIONS:** 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.

### Biography

Hong-ruì Shi is a nursing PhD candidate who is on her first year in West China School of Nursing in Sichuan University in China. She focuses her research on geriatric nursing and nursing education.

\*Corresponding author: Xiu-ying Hu, Professor, Doctoral supervisor, West China School of Medicine/West China Hospital, Sichuan University.

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