

GOSSIP ATTITUDES AND PATIENT PRIVACY PRACTICES OF PEDIATRIC NURSES

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Statement of the Problem: Privacy is important for securing and protecting the personal, physical, and psychological special things that are important and special for patients. Nurses have been held responsible for ensuring privacy and confidentiality by the International Council of Nurses Code of Ethics for Nurses. The personal space is limited in the areas where health services are provided or in hospitals. The studies revealed that the children and adolescents living in the hospital had problems with privacy. Nurses, who are with patients on a 24h, have a number of significant roles to play in the problems or conflicts associated with privacy and confidentiality. The research was conducted to determine that gossip and rumor attitudes, and practices towards patient privacy, of the nurses working in pediatric units.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: A total of 112 nurses, working in pediatric units, were included in the descriptive study. Descriptive Characteristics Form, The Gossip and Rumor Attitude Scale and Patient Privacy Scale are used to collect data.

Findings: It was observed that nurses who have a higher education level, who are educated about patient privacy and who read patient rights regulation, are more concerned about patient privacy. In addition nurses working in intensive care and outpatient treatment units are more observed about sexuality privacy than nurses working in other child clinics. Negative correlations were found between the gossip attitudes of the nurses and the point average scores of the patient confidentiality scale. Nurses who negatively define gossip are more concerned about patient confidentiality.

Conclusion & Significance: The nurse's knowledge about the provision of patient confidentiality affects their privacy practices. For this reason, regular trainings are recommended in hospitals.

Biography

Sibel Serap Ceylan has completed her PhD from Ege University Institute for Health Sciences, Department of Pediatric Nursing. She is a Lecturer at Pamukkale University, Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Pediatric Nursing since 2002. Her research interests include Pediatric Nursing Care, Newborn Care and Nursing Education.

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