

Self confidence and attitude of acute care nurses to presence of family members during resuscitation

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ABSTRACT

Aim: The present study aimed to assess the relationship between attitude to the presence of family members during cardiopulmonary resuscitation and confidence of acute care nurses in performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation in the presence of family. **Methods:** This descriptive-analytical study was conducted on nurses working in acute care units (intensive care unit, coronary care unit, and emergency department) in Iran in 2017. A total of 150 nurses entered the study by convenience sampling. Data were collected on nurses' attitude towards the presence of family scale and nurses' self-confidence in presence of family scale. **Results:** Of the 150 participants, 48 (32%) were men and 102 (68%) were women. Total mean score of attitude was 67 ± 10.4 (obtained score by nurses were ranging from 32 to 100). Total mean score of self-confidence was 53.86 ± 11.7 (obtained score by nurses were ranging from 23 to 81). Pearson correlation test showed a significant negative relationship between nurses' attitude toward presence of family members during cardiopulmonary resuscitation and their self-confidence ($r = -0.45$, $P = 0.001$). **Conclusion:** The present study showed that nurses with a higher self-confidence have a more positive attitude toward presence of family members during cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Given the importance of the subject, it should be considered by nursing managers and planners.

Key words: Cardiopulmonary resuscitation ■ Family-centered care ■ Critical care nurses ■ Self-confidence ■ Professional issues

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a common event in emergency departments and intensive care units (Brasel et al, 2016). The presence of family members during CPR can be considered as a part of holistic care (Lederman et al, 2017). Previous studies have shown that presence of family members during CPR can have benefits. In a study conducted in France, Jabre et al (2013) investigated consequences of presence of family members during CPR in two groups of family members: those who had watched the process of CPR in their relatives, and those who had not. In this study, stress and anxiety experienced by families, effect of the presence of families on performance of the CPR team, and outcome of the CPR procedure were assessed. The results showed that experienced anxiety and stress was significantly lower in the group that had closely watched the CPR procedure compared with the other group. Presence of family members during CPR was also found to have no effect on performance of the CPR team and outcome (Jabre et al, 2013). In a separate study Jabre et al (2014) also found that positive psychological effects of witnessing CPR on family members can persist for a long time.

Although previous studies have shown the beneficial effects of presence of family members during CPR for family members such as lower rates of depression, anxiety, stress and post traumatic stress disorders (Soleimanpur et al, 2017), it does not occur in many hospitals in the world, and nurses usually have a negative attitude toward their presence (Esmali Abdar et al, 2016; Zali et al, 2017). In a study, Powers and Candela (2017) examined nursing performance and policies regarding presence of family members during CPR; 124 nurses working in intensive care units were assessed. The results showed that the majority of nurses had little experience of presence of family members during CPR. No local policy was found on the presence of family members in the wards (Powers and Candela, 2017).

Issues that concern nurses about presence of family members during CPR include greater anxiety and stress in the members of CPR team, discontinuing CPR procedure when the patient has no chance of survival, legal problems and physical harm to staff (Esmali Abdar et al, 2016). The authors considered that it seemed that there is a relationship between the above factors and nurses' confidence level in performing CPR. However, no study was found on this topic in Iran, and few studies have been conducted on nurses in other countries. The aim of this

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