Nurse Caring Behaviors: Relationship Based Care across Cultures

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Background

• Renewed professional interest in nurse caring behaviors
• Commitment to global nursing
• Commitment to improving the patient experience by enhancing nursing care at the bedside and nursing care across settings
• Leadership interest in linking nursing care to patient outcomes
Conceptual Foundation: Relationship Based Care (RBC)?

Three key principles:

• Care of self

• Care of clinical colleagues

• Care of patients and families
Prior research

• Nurses’ perceptions of their own caring behaviors in specific settings and with specific groups of patients, e.g., patients with diabetes

• Differences in nurses’ perceptions of their own caring behavior and caring behavior of nurses identified by patients

• Cross national comparisons of nurses’ caring behaviors (our own research comparing nurses’ caring behaviors in Ireland and the US)
Nurses perceptions of their own caring behaviors

• Knowledge

• Competence

• Skills
Methods

• Design: Cross sectional descriptive quantitative design
• Sample: Minimum of 50 nurses/country working in hospital settings; sample included nurses from three continents (Asia, Europe, North America)
• Instrument: CBI-24 self reported and background information (e.g., demographic information, years of experience)
• Analysis: Comparisons across groups, differences based on background variables
Caring Behavior Inventory (CBI-24)

• 6-point Likert-type (1 = never to 6 = always) scale based on a conceptual definition of nurse caring as an interactive process that occurs between nurses and patients.

• Convergent validity and high internal consistency, Cronbach alpha ranging from 0.92 to 0.96 (Burtson & Stichler, 2010; Palese et al., 2011; Papastavrou et al., 2012; Wu et al., 2006).

• Explores the perception of the frequency of caring behaviors; higher mean scores indicate higher frequency of caring behaviors.

• 4 subscales:
  • Assurance of Human Presence (eight items),
  • Knowledge and Skill (five items),
  • Respectful Deference to Others (six items)
  • Positive Connectedness (five items).
Results

• Similarities in nurses’ perceptions of their own caring behaviors across countries/cultures

• Assurance of Human Presence

• Knowledge and Skill

• Respectful Deference to Others

• Positive Connectedness
Key challenges in teaching RBC across cultures

• Care of self
• 5 minute sit down
• Bedside handoff
Summary

• Need for additional research

• Nurse awareness: Need to make nursing care explicit

• Implementation of programs for care of self