The Effectiveness of Electronic Nursing Documentation in Improving the Quality of Care of Hospitalized Patients

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: to assess and compare nurse burnout related to the use of E-based versus paper-based nursing documentation, identify the effectiveness of E- nursing documentation in improving the quality hospitalized patients' care, and to explore and compare the relationship between burnout and the quality of hospitalized patient care. A comparative, analytical descriptive approach was used.

Methods: The current study employed the analytical-descriptive approach which seeks for verifying the effectiveness of electronic nursing documentation in improving the quality of hospitalized patients' care. A convenient sample of patient records and nurses from two purposefully selected hospitals, one uses electronic nursing documentation (King Fahad Medical City) and the other uses paper nursing documentation (Alsulayl general hospital), KSA. Tools: A- The Maslach burnout inventory to assess burn out among nurses in both hospitals, B- The Cat-ch-Ing instrument for assessing quality and quantity of nursing documentation and C- a structured patient survey tool.

Results: There were differences in burnout in favor of paper-based documentation, and statistically significant differences were found between the study sample users of E- documentation and paper documentation on the quality of hospitalized patients' care in favor of e-nursing documentation at P (0.01), a negative correlative relationship was found between all burnout dimensions and the overall degree of burnout and the quality of hospitalized patients' care.

Conclusion: Use of Electronic nursing documentation was of great value on patient outcomes, and nurses' burnout.

Keywords: nurses' burnout, electronic nursing documentation, paper nursing documentation quality of patient care, and hospitalized patients.

"What is known"

In order to maintain the continuity of the individually planned patient treatment, documentation is an upgrade to the structured communication between healthcare personnel. Both paper-based and electronic health records have obvious limitations when it comes to actual nursing documentation.

"What it contributes"

This study investigates the way in which the type of nursing documentation affects the quality of patient care, also it gives us the key behind one reason for nurse's burnout.

* Implications of the study:

Patients; a better patient outcome in the hospital setting which employs E-nursing documentation system. Nurses; a low burn out level among nurses working in the hospital setting using the E-nursing documentation. clinical practice; low cost due to improved patient outcome and low hospital stay.

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