

20TH WORLD NURSING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

May 22- 24, 2017 Osaka, Japan

Essential knowledge for hospital-based nurse educators engaged in off-the-job training: Content analysis of open responses to a nationwide survey in Japan

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The aim of this study was to investigate essential knowledge for hospital-based nurse educators delivering off-the-job training (Off-JT Nurse Educators). An anonymous self-administered questionnaire survey was distributed to 647 Off-JT Nurse Educators at 218 hospitals exceeding 400 beds and 337 were returned. Valid free description responses were entered on 159 surveys yielding 484 entries. These entries were categorized by the authors and verified by two researchers with Off-JT experience. Inter-rater agreement using kappa coefficient was confirmed for the Off-JT Nurse Educators. The kappa coefficients indicating the percent identity of the categories were 72% and 71%. The 484 entries were divided into 31 categories. The category of "knowledge of planning, operation and evaluating educational programs" had the largest number of entries (82). "Basic theory of education, including educational principles, learning theories, and adult education" was the next most common category with 66 entries, followed by "knowledge and skills of educational techniques and teaching methods related to lectures and exercises" with 46 entries. Our data indicates two trends. First, these three categories may be considered essential to the training of Off-JT Nurse Educators by current Off-JT Nurse Educators. Second, the fact that 31 categories were extracted means it is required for Off-JT Educators to acquire a variety of knowledge and skills.

Biography

Yoshihiro Hirakawa has an MA in Nursing from Kyushu University. He worked as a hospital-based nurse educator at Kyushu University Hospital before becoming a Junior Assistant Professor at Fukuoka Jo Gakuin Nursing University. He is interested in simulation-based pedagogy and online discussion in nursing education.

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