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Prevalence and related factors associated with fall accidents in pediatric patients

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The fall accidents in hospitalized pediatric patients is a critical issue not only for pediatric patients and their families, but also for nursing professionals. Understanding the prevalent rates and related factors associated with in-hospital pediatric patients is crucial for protecting and controlling pediatric patients against fall accidents. The aim of the study was to examine the prevalence of fall accidents and to identify their associated factors among pediatric patients in Taiwan. This was a secondary analysis of the data from the Northern Medical Center in-patient database from 2010 to 2013. The study sample included 40,703 pediatric patients aged under 18 years old. The data were collected using the modified hospitalized children high-risk fall screening scale and demographic data including age, gender, physical condition, medicine use and experience of fall. Data analysis was conducted using frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, independent t-tests and logistic regression analyses. The prevalence of in-hospital fall accidents were 0.03% (N=52). The experiences of fall accidents and age were significant predictors of the high-risk fall screening scores in hospitalized pediatric patients ($p<0.05$). Patients aged under 3 years and experienced fall in past year showed significantly higher rates of falling accident compared to the counterparts. There was no significant difference in the fall rate by gender, physical condition, and medicine use. The information of this study can be used as a reference for health care providers to prevent fall accidents among pediatric in-patients in Taiwan.

Biography

Yen-Hua Cho is a Graduate student in Nursing School at Chang Gung University of Science and Technology. In 1998, she has worked in the Department of Nursing at the Chang Gung Memorial Hospital as a Head Nurse. She has been interested in health research among the pediatric patients with chronic diseases.

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