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The practice of error reporting between Filipino nurses in selected private and government hospitals

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Both private and government hospitals ensure the delivery of safe and quality service to their patients and the tool to warrant patient safety is through error reporting. Unfortunately, error reporting depends on the people's willingness to report, data are not well defined or understood and reports may not be completed for all near-miss situations. In order to maintain patient safety, a better understanding of nurse's error reporting practices is requisite. This study aimed to describe and compare the staff nurse's error reporting practices between selected private and government hospital in Metro Manila specifically the frequency of nursing errors reported, willingness to report an error in terms of degree of harm and barrier and motivation in error reporting. Using descriptive comparative design, 100 staff nurses were selected from level III hospitals in Metro Manila. Data were analyzed using chi-square and t-test to determine the differences between private and government hospital. Statistically, there is significant difference between private and government in terms of frequency of errors reported but no difference have been found in terms of willingness to report an error in terms of degree of harm and in terms of barrier and motivation in error reporting. Private hospitals have higher incidence of reporting and non-reporting compared to government hospital. Verbally reported error emerged as a reason for underreporting. The willingness of nurses is directly proportionate from the degree of harm. The practice of error reporting among staff nurses in both private and government hospitals is sufficiently positive as evidenced by the factors affecting error reporting being more regarded as motivators rather than barriers. However, this is inconsistent with the error-reporting rate. The stigma about incident reporting may appear to have subsided but the culture of just is still not evident.

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