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The perception of care concept of intensive care unit nurses

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Objective: This research aims to reveal the perception of care concept of intensive care unit nurses.

Method: This qualitative study was conducted in Intensive Care Unit of Diyarbakır Training and Research Hospital, in the southeastern Anatolia region of Turkey between January and March 2016. The study was performed with 17 nurses. Private face-to-face semi-structured interviews were conducted to collect the data. In the study questions were asked such as: what is the concept of care for you? What items are included in the concept of care? What is the contribution of care practices to the professionalization of nursing? Data were analyzed using a content analysis approach.

Result: The average age of the nurses is 28.7, 8 of them are male and 12 of them have undergraduate degree. All the nurses stated that the concept of care is the basis of nursing. In the study, 10 nurses stated that the concept of care is to help the patients to meet the physical/hygiene needs. On the other side, 7 nurses described the concept of care as helping to overcome both the physical and the psychological needs of the patients. Two main themes were defined as the result of the study: Physical care (providing hygiene, positioning and, wound care); Psychological care (communication).

Conclusion: The study shows that majority of the intensive care nurses perceive the care concept as providing more hygiene which leads us to conclude that the concept perception of these nurses is not developed sufficiently.

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