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Determining the opinions of nurses working in different cities of Eastern turkey about spirituality and spiritual care

Mehtap TAN¹ Afıtap ÖZDELIKARA² and Hatice POLAT¹

¹Ataturk University, Turkey

²Ondokuz Mayıs University, Turkey

Aim: The purpose of this study is to determine the opinions of nurses about spirituality and spiritual care.

Methods: This descriptive study was conducted between November 2012 and August 2013. The population of the study consisted of nurses working in Faculty of Medicine Hospitals in 7 city centers (Tokat, Ordu, Samsun, Elazığ, Van, Erzincan, Malatya) located in the Central Black Sea and Eastern Anatolian Regions. The sample of the study consisted of 747 nurses who worked in the Faculty of Medicine Hospitals of the same cities and agreed to participate in the study. The data were collected by using "Personal Information Form" and "Spirituality and Spiritual Care Rating Scale" (SSCRS). The data were analyzed by using mean and percentage calculations in SPSS 16 package program.

Results: The average age of the nurses agreeing to participate in the study was 29.38±6.4 and 68.5% of them had bachelor degree, 62.8% stated that they did not receive training concerning spirituality and spiritual care. 60% of those who stated that they received training on spirituality and spiritual care reported that they received this training during their nursing education. The mean score obtained by the nurses was 2.46±0.5 in spirituality and spiritual care subscale, 3.22±0.5 in religiosity subscale and 2.64±0.5 in individual care subscale; whereas, total mean score of SSCRS was 2.83±0.3.

Conclusions: While the results of the study indicate that the knowledge of the nurses concerning spirituality and spiritual care was insufficient, it is thought that spiritual aspect of the care services in both vocational education and in-service training should be examined.

Biography

Hatice POLAT finished PhD in Nursing from Ataturk University in the field of Internal Medicine in 2013. She received the title of Assistant Professor in the same year. She has conducted research on subject such as reflexology, COPD, cancer, nursing, complementary treatment. Currently, Ataturk University, Faculty of Nursing is Assistant Professor.

haticeduyar@mynet.com

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