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Comparing tasks of part-time nurses based on bed function: Fundamental research for construction practice programs of part-time nurses

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Background: The law obliged employers responsible for establishing measures to shorten working hours for those workers raising child aged three years and younger, leading to increase the use of such measures in Japan.

Objective: In an effort to construct practice programs for part-time nurses (users of measures to shorten working hours), this research aims to examine the status of nursing workload times and elucidate the status of nursing tasks.

Methods: The research methods were a time motion study of the status of nursing workloads. Research participants were parttime nurses: Two nurses working in acute ward and two nurses working in chronic ward. Data collection used Nursing Tasks 36 items on Nursing Action Classification by the Japanese Nursing Association. The questionnaire asked participants to note tasks in five-minute intervals. Excel ver. 2010 was used for data analysis. Tasks were classified nursing task classification by Ishii et al. (2004), into recovery nursing, treatment support nursing and others. The research period was July through September 2017. The study was approved by the Ethical Review Board for Nursing Research of Osaka Medical College, Japan.

Results: All nurses were in charge of approximately five patients. Results of comparing bed function into acute and chronic care, for acute care nurses, nursing actions in recovery nursing, treatment support nursing and other areas comprised 19%, 52% and 29%, respectively, whereas they comprised 33%, 29% and 38%, for chronic care nurses.

Conclusion: Bed function requires to be examined in preparing a practice program for part-time nurses.

Biography

Toshimi Kawakita has completed her Masters in Nursing Services from Graduate School of Nursing, Osaka Prefecture University, Habikino, Japan. She has clinical experience of 6 years and nursing education experience of 10 years. Presently she is working as Lecturer, Faculty of Nursing, Osaka Medical College, Japan. Her specialty is nursing administration. Her research interests focus on career development of nurses in child-rearing.

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