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Nurses handover and its implication on nursing care in the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital, Calabar, Nigeria

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The study examined Nurses handover and its implication for nursing care in University of Calabar Teaching Hospital (UCTH), Calabar. The nurses' shift changes or handover is a key moment for guaranteeing the continuity of care and the patient's safety. The study sought to examine the various aspects of handover common to nurses, identify the factors influencing Nurses handover and examine the implication of Nurse handover on patients care in UCTH. A null hypothesis was also formulated; there is a significant positive relationship between nurse handover and patients care in UCTH. The study employed a descriptive survey design. A sample size of 94 respondent was used for the study. A well-structured questionnaire was used to elicit information from the respondents. Data analyzed was presented in simple frequency tables and percentages while the hypothesis was tested using the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient at 0.05 level of significance. Findings revealed that majority of respondents, strongly agreed that transfer of information from one shift to the other is an important aspect of nurse handover 38(44.70%); communication is a vital element in the handover process 38(44.7%). The study further revealed that handover enhance nurses' and patients family relationship 38(44.7%), handover can be used as a tool for improving communication in nursing care 34(40.0%). It was also revealed that there is a significant positive relationship between nurse handover and patients care in UCTH. The study concluded that the handover process is characterized as being a routine, daily event that is performed in the morning, afternoon, and night, and recommended the need for regular updates among practicing nurses to enable them acquire special skills that will enhance better communication during handover, as well as re-emphasizing of nurse handover as a vital procedure in the training curriculum of student nurses.

Biography

Alberta David Nsemo holds a BNSc degree in Nursing, Postgraduate Diploma in Education, a Master's degree in Medical Sociology, and a PhD in Medical Sociology, all from the University of Calabar. She also has a second PhD in Advance Midwifery and Neonatology from the University of the Western Cape, South Africa in 2016. She has served as a Clinical Nurse in several hospitals in Calabar for many years, involved in the training of midwives and nurses. She is currently a Senior Lecturer at the University of Calabar, Department of Nursing Science. She is a Fellow of West Africa College of Nursing, an Associate Member of Industrial Administration of Nigeria, a Member of African Women in Leadership Organization (AWLO), a Member of Nurses in Aids Care. As a Seasoned Academia and a Researcher, she has attended and presented papers in Conferences at home and abroad, she has also earned over 40 publications in both local and international learned academic journals.

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