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Percieved barriers by men nurses in clinical areas

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Statement of the Problem: Nowadays the number of men nurses has risen in clinical settings with the attention on men in nursing. However the problems and difficulties that men nurses are faced with are growing up. It seems that these problems are originating from societal perception.

Aim: The purpose of this study is to explore men nurses' opinions about nursing and experienced barriers as a men in nursing care.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: A descriptive qualitative design was adopted in this study to determine opinions of men nurses' about nursing in clinical settings of hospitals in Turkey in February 2018 using purposive and snowball sampling for recruitment. Data were collected with ten men nurses in the form of one by one semi-structured interviews included opinions about nursing, future implementations for nursing, the motivating and demotivating factors of men nurses and difficulties of implementing care practice. Transcripts were analyzed to identify themes and written reflections.

Findings: The following themes emerged from the transcribed verbatim data based on content analysis about the problems and demotivating factors: "seen by society as a female profession", "privacy concerns", "difficult working conditions", "community prejudice", "types of addressing to men nurses", "negative attitudes of patient caregivers", "insufficiency of health professionals of equipment", "violence or mobbing" and "insufficiency of salary distribution". Recommendations for nursing development by the men nurses are: "financial arrangement", "specialization", "occupational organization", "multidisciplinary approach", "in service training", "provision of health professionals recruitment"

Conclusions & Significance: In the literature, it is highlighted that men nurses are faced with many barriers during caring process to their patients. Being aware of their needs and barriers and providing them opportunities to keep up with these problems are key factors for professional development.

Biography

Sukru Ozen had his Master's thesis on the illness perception of multiple sclerosis patients. He is now a PhD student in Internal Medicine Nursing Department, Faculty of Health Sciences. Gazi University. He has his expertise in neurological diseases, health and wellbeing. His publications are about stroke, multiple sclerosis and nursing education.

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