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How should a practicum of bed bath home health care in nursing education be carried out? A literature review of actual conditions of bed bath training

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Due to rapid population ageing, the number of elderly people requiring high quality nursing care at home is increasing. This study aims to improve the quality of life of the elderly requiring home care and the hygienic care skills of home nursing staff, the latter of which tends to be overlooked. We identify actual conditions of bed bath training provided to date and home bed bath skills through literature review. Using the medical literature database, we searched literature using two key terms, “bed bath” and “practicum” and extracted 50 Japanese and 57 international papers published in the last ten years (up to March, 2015). We excluded non-original papers, duplicated papers, reviews and proceedings. Papers from basic and adult nursing fields have dealt with bed bath practicum. Only a few papers from home care nursing field focused on it. Some papers reported gaps between basic nursing education and skills in a clinical setting. Tools and ways of providing bed bath at home, the methods and skills in Japan were different from those used in other countries. In many cases nursing staff conduct home bed bath in Japan and nursing students have many opportunities to get bed bath training. However, the method and skills of home bed bath have not been established. It is necessary to identify important points for observing caretakers, choosing methods, implementing and evaluating home bed bath skills. It is also necessary to examine how we conduct home bed bath practicum in comparison with practicum employed in other countries.

Biography

Izumi Ueda has worked as a Public Health Nurse in Japan. She is currently an Associate Professor supervising the home nursing care field in the Nursing Department of Sapporo Medical University. Her research themes include, identification of core-competency in home nursing care education, development nursing skill education core-curriculum, processes of home nursing care and development of bed bath skills in home nursing.

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