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Exploring factors influencing the nursing role during asthma management of children in Saudi Arabia

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Asthma is the third most common cause of hospital admissions in Saudi Arabia today. Asthma prevalence in Saudi Arabia is reflected in the number of hospitalizations, school absenteeism, as well as morbidity and mortality in children. These factors are exacerbated by lack of knowledge and insufficient education on programs about asthma management, and the unavailability of community nursing services in the country to provide asthma management education for families after discharge. The Saudi government is therefore faced with a big challenge in dealing with asthma. Saudi Arabia has always been dependent on non-Saudi nurses. Indeed, Saudi nurses make less than 30% of the total nursing workforce Kingdom wide. The Saudi literature links the shortage in Saudi nurses to socio-cultural factors found to influence the prevailing negative images and perceived low status of nursing. Hence, this research is a contribution to the knowledge pertaining to the role of cultural and contextual factors that influence nursing in the management of asthma in Saudi. Particularly researching nursing care in Saudi Arabian hospitals, this research explores the processes, factors and specific issues related to asthma among children. It studies in-depth the issues surrounding nursing practices in Saudi Arabia and highlights the changing care management scenario and aims to understand the role of various stakeholders.

Key words: Asthma, asthma management, nursing role, children

Biography

Abeer Saeed Alatawi is a lecture in Tabuk University which gave the researcher the opportunity to get a scholarship and complete my post-graduate education in one of the British Universities to both expand on her knowledge in the this field and to qualify herself to be a good educator since the future career will be mainly teaching in an institution. Abeer has completed her Master degree in Nottingham University. She is doing her Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh. She also worked as registered nurse in NICU in Royal commission medical centre in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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