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The value of a man, missing concept in nursing education

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Background and Objective: In the holy book of Quran, about the human value it is written “everyone rescues a person from the dead, is such that he vitalizes all of the people”. A question that most nursing students faced with it especially in the wards of intensive care, dialysis, transplantation of organs and so on, is what is the value of a human life that the special machines, medical costs and advanced facilities of these wards are spent to maintain it while many people, around the world, encounter with death every day. This question indicates a lack of attention to the value of human life in nursing education. The present study is going to investigate this concept in the professional sources of nursing education.

Materials and Methods: This is a library research that the nursing textbooks (Brunner Suddarth’s, Black & Hawks and Phipps & Lucmann which are taught mainly in Iran) as well as nursing lesson plans has been reviewed to determine to how much the concept of human value in these sources and training courses are taken into consideration.

Results: Review of the four nursing textbooks showed that it is not clearly referred to the concept of human value in them. Of course, in most of the chapters of these books unclearly mentioned to the human value. For example in the 17th chapter of the Brunner & Suddarth’s textbook of medical-surgical nursing with the title of “dying patient” is referred to this concept. Also, in the Black & Hawks textbook of medical-surgical nursing in the chapter of “principles of professional and psychosocial cares” is referred to the human value. While in the Phipps & Lucmann is referred too little to the concept of human value. Review of the courses showed that there is no course in nursing field which analyzes the concept of human value, just in the professional ethics is pointed to it.

Conclusion: The findings of this study showed that life value of a man has not been considered the same as anatomy, physiology and even microbiology in nursing education. In addition, there are not any courses in nursing curriculum that directly or indirectly express this concept. In these reasons, to define, explain and express of the value of patient life as a human based on the Nursing Royal College of the UK, nursing is using of clinical criteria for better care, improve, strengthen, maintain and regain patient health and tackle health problems to achieve a quality of life from their disease to death-seems to need. Because if the nursing students in education period at the nursing school are familiar with these concepts, it is certain that the nursing services will be provided a better insight and attitude in the future.

Biography

Golnaz Forough-Ameri has completed his MSc in nursing management at the age of 26 years from Tehran University School of Nursing and Midwifery. She was manager of education of basic science group/ manager of education department/ manager of postgraduate program and manager of health group. She is teaching several courses for B.S. and postgraduate students such as principals of management. Also she is the director of several postgraduate theses. She has published more than 17 papers in Iranian reputed journals and serving as an editorial board member of Iranian Journal of Qualitative Research in Health Sciences.

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