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The challenges of nursing clinical instructors in Taiwan

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The purpose of this study was to explore in-depth Nursing Clinical Instructors' perspectives of their difficulties and needs in clinical teaching. The qualitative research method using focus group interviewing was applied for the study. 53 nursing clinical instructors, who taught in the department of internal medicine, surgery, obstetric, pediatric, psychiatric, and community department in the middle Taiwan, were invited for the study. Each group contained 9-10 persons from same department. The group interviews took place during the period of July-August, 2013, with 2-3 hours for each interview. A semi-structure interview guide was used for the interviews. The content analysis method was applied for data analysis. The 8 most common difficulties of a clinical instructor were identified as the following: 1) Inadequate nursing staffs to assist clinical instructors in teaching as they were already overloaded; 2) A sub-standard care of patients the nursing staffs demonstrates ; 3) Discrepancies in management of patients problems between clinical teacher and class instructor; 4) The unfriendly attitudes of the nursing staffs toward the students; 5) Individual teaching strategies to meet students' needs; 6) The strategies to discover the students' problem and how to instruct them; 7) The attitude a clinical teachers should have in instructing the students and facing evaluation of teaching ; 8) The criteria of selecting proper cases for students' learning. Our findings reflected the needs of developing a support system for the clinical instructors, and the preparation one should make when becoming a clinical instructor.

Biography

Shuyuan Chao has completed her Doctoral degree in 1997 from University of San Diego, school of nursing and she is a professor in Hungkuang University. She had been the Director of nursing department in the university and the associate president in Chung Gung institute of nursing in Taiwan. She has published more than 20 papers in reputed journals and had served as an editorial board member for journal of nursing and the journal of medical informatics.

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