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### Conversion of the communication paradigm for elderly

In nursing, communication is essential for nursing practice and its importance is well known from the viewpoint of the quality of care. However, in communication studies associated with medical care and nursing, how has the importance been examined? Through overview of the definition and the contents of studies on patient-centered communication as well as therapeutic communication, clinical/medical communication and health communication, it was found that previous communication studies focused on medical needs or nursing needs of patients or users. Communication is regarded as a means to solve the problems related to such needs, of which scheme has been examined and the outcome has been evaluated. The concept underlying this trend is that the aim of communication between health professionals and patients is different from daily conversation. To address patients in acute or chronic stage and people requiring disease prevention and health promotion, these studies are very important indeed. However, for the elderly, especially the persons who are forced to be hospitalized in an institution for long term and the patients in end-of-life, the ideal communication should be examined, taking account of the intention of communication for a human as the social existence. According to our previous studies, the mean speech time of the institutionalized elderly requiring long-term care was as extremely short as four minutes, which seemed that they were alienated from communication. This study describes the actual situation, background and importance of life world communication in the institutionalized elderly in Japan.

#### Recent Publications

1. Yasuko Fukaya and Takanori Kitamura (2013) Status of Capability ADL and Performance ADL (ADL Gap) in Community Elderly with Disabilities and Development of ADL Gap Self-Efficacy, Activities of Daily Living: Performance, Impact on Life Quality and Assistance, NY, USA. *Nova Science Publishers*: 97-118.
2. Yasuko Fukaya, et al. (2009) Education to promote verbal communication by caregivers in geriatric care facilities. *Japan Journal of Nursing Science*; 16: 1-103.

#### Biography

Yasuko Fukaya has completed her PhD in 1999 from Tokyo University, Japan. She is a Professor at the Department of Home Care Nursing of Kanto Gakuin University, Japan.

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