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## Factors affecting the competency of wound, ostomy and continence nurses

Mayumi Chikubu<sup>1</sup> and Miyako Oike<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kyushu University, Japan

<sup>2</sup>Internatuonal University of Health and Welfare, Japan

**Aim:** This study aimed to clarify the factors affecting the competency of Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses (WOCN) in Japan according to job title, years of experience as a WOCN, educational background and motivation to become a WOCN.

**Method:** A cross-sectional descriptive survey design using self-reported questionnaires was adopted. The participants were 1792 WOCNs belonging to hospitals on the Japan Nursing Association website. There were 737 valid respondents. The survey content consisted of questions about job title, years of experience as a WOCN, educational background, motivation to become a WOCN and WOCN competency evaluation index. Data were analyzed by one-way analysis of variance and multiple regression analysis.

**Result:** In the one-way analysis of variance, the job position showed a significant difference in five competency concepts: Action required for the achievement of duty goals, Human relationships based on understanding others, WOCN role formation, WOCN professional skills, and WOCN self-study. The years of experience as WOCN recognized significant differences among the other four competency concepts except Human relationships based on understanding others. Educational background and motivation to become a WOCN did not show a significant difference. The results of multiple regression analysis were as follows: Job title ( $\beta=0.092$ ,  $p<0.05$ ), years of experience as WOCN ( $\beta=0.255$ ,  $p<0.001$ ), educational background ( $\beta=-0.016$ ), and motivation to become a WOCN ( $\beta=-0.064$ ). Influence of the competency was greater for the proportion of years of experience as WOCN compared with job title.

**Conclusion:** The factors affecting the competency of WOCNs were job title and years of experience as a WOCN. The influence of years of experience as a WOCN was greater compared with job title.

## Biography

Mayumi Chikubu is currently a Doctoral candidate at the Kyushu University Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Japan. Her study theme is human resources development and perioperative nursing. She is a certified wound, ostomy and continence nurse in Japan.

mayumi.chikubu.702@s.kyushu-u.ac.jp

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