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Use of Omaha system for prevention and treatment of skin diseases symptoms in occupational health nursing

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Occupational skin diseases symptoms are generally occurring as a result of exposure to various occupational risk factors in the work environment. The Omaha System (OS) is a computer-compatible, standardized, research-based classification system. It was developed at the Visiting Nurse Association of Omaha, USA by Martin (1975-1993) that focused on patients who received services represent all ages, medical diagnoses, socio-economic ranges, spiritual beliefs, ethnicity, and cultural values. This review aims to determine the skin diseases symptoms by using reliable methods such as OS that used effectively to recognize occupational health nursing (OHN) in practice, allowing the evaluation after nursing interventions. The OS consists of three relational components: Problem Classification Scheme (PSC) for assessment of client problems; Intervention Scheme (IS) for care plans or services, and Problem Rating Scale for Outcomes (PRRSO) for evaluation. The PSC has skin problem included in physiological domain, and its included following sign and symptom; lesions/pressure ulcer, rash, excessively dry, excessively oily, inflammation, pruritus, drainage, bruising, hypertrophy of nails, delayed incisional healing, and other. After the assessment of skin symptoms, OHN plans intervention according to IS that includes 75 targets. The interventions were coded to the suitable categories which were health surveillance, training/monitoring/consulting, treatment/processing and case management. The most common intervention targets for skin problems are dressing change/wound care, skin care, positioning, infection precautions, durable medical equipment, medical care, nursing care, personal hygiene. The intervention evaluates with PRRSO which is Likert-type scales to measure the entire range of severity for the concepts of knowledge, behavior, and status of patient. If OHNs or health professionals use the OS accurately, they can describe and quantify their practice.

Biography

Emine Kurtulus is a Research Assistant at Istanbul University-Florence Nightingale Faculty of Nursing, Public Health Nursing department. She completed her Graduation at Istanbul University Institute of Health Sciences and PhD at Binghamton University. She has five articles in international and national journals, and has been serving a Journal Referee. Her research interest is in the area of occupational skin diseases in young workers, apprentice skin diseases.

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