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Prerequisites and obstacles for parental participation in taking care of hospitalized children: A qualitative study in Iran

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Background & Aim: Although family-centered care (FCC) is an accepted approach in pediatric nursing, there are still practices and policies that limit parental participation in the care of their child. This qualitative study aimed to explore the nurses' experience about prerequisites and barriers of parental participation in pediatric care in Iran.

Materials & Methods: This qualitative study was carried out using content analysis approach. 12 pediatric nurses were purposefully selected from a pediatric hospital in Tehran, as a capital of Iran. Data collection was through face-to-face semi-structured interviews until data saturation was finalized. Interviews were lasted for 1 hour with every participant. Data analysis was conducted using content analysis.

Results: The results classified in two categories: Prerequisites and obstacles. Four themes emerged as prerequisites included: Gaining parents' trust toward nurses; giving the required information and education to the parents about care and treatment process; involving the parents in caregiving process and; clarifying the parents' role. The themes related to obstacles were emerged as: Lack of mutual motivation and interest; ineffective management and; lack of confidence in the nursing profession.

Conclusion: Findings revealed the prerequisites and obstacles of parental participation in caring for their hospitalized children. Managers and nurses can take advantage of these findings to improve and strengthen parental participation in pediatric care units during hospitalization.

Biography

Parvaneh Vasli is an Assistant Professor in School of Nursing and Midwifery, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences (SBMU). She completed her MSc in Pediatric Nursing and worked in the Pediatric Nursing field for some years. She has also experience of teaching in Pediatric Nursing. She has published some papers in Iranian and international journal. She is an Editor of an Iranian nursing journal.

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