Nurses Attitudes Regarding Care of Dying Patients at Oncology Centers

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ABSTRACT

Background: End-of-life care pertains to the healthcare and assistance that patients have when confronted with a life-threatening disease. Many medical personnel in Iraq are still uninformed about and undertrained in handling the EOL issue, despite the country's growing need for EOL treatment. The study aim to assess the direction of nurses' attitude regarding care of dying patients at oncology centers, examine the relationships between nurse's attitude and demographic variables.

Materials and Methods: A cross-sectional design was conducted on Iraqi nurses in Middle Euphrates at three centers (N =150). Data analysis included descriptive statistics and Kruskal-Wallis H, Mann-Whitney U analysis.

Results: shows that the total mean score for nurses attitudes was positive (93.39 (SD ± 30.28), analysis reveals it is evident that there are statistically significant differences between those who are provided care for dying patients or not in terms of their attitude (p= 0.000) also nurses who attended educational session had significant differences than not attended. Therefore, end-of-life care education is necessary for nurses.

Key words: Attitudes, Cancer, Dying, Palliative care, Nurses

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