

Creating Healthy Work Environments VIRTUAL 2021

The Association Between Nurse-Physician Collaboration and Patient and Nurse Outcomes in Adult Intensive Care Units

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Introduction: Poor nurse-physician collaboration may negatively affect the delivery of healthcare and patient outcomes. Effective collaboration has been proven to decrease costs, provide more holistic care, increase job enjoyment, and improve patient outcomes. Many assessments of interprofessional collaboration are based on case study designs or are evaluations of specific interprofessional training programs.

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to analyze data from the National Database of Nursing Quality Indicators® (NDNQI), a large, standardized database to answer two research questions (1) What is the level of collaborative communication between nurses and physicians on adult intensive care units (ICUs)? (2) What are the associations between patient outcomes and nurse-physician collaboration?

Theoretical and Conceptual Framework: The conceptual framework guiding this study is the Quality Healthcare Outcomes Model in which characteristics of the healthcare system affects and is affected by patient characteristics, care processes, and patient outcomes.

Methods: This is a cross-sectional, descriptive study using work environment and clinical data from NDNQI. The data were collected in 2019 from 360 hospital ICUs in the United States. A variety of hospital types submitted data, including Magnet and non-Magnet hospitals; academic medical centers, teaching hospitals, and community hospitals. In a survey, RNs rated five aspects of interprofessional communication with physicians: conflict management skills; respect; assignment of blame for adverse events; shared accountability; and understanding the roles, knowledge, and skills of RNs.

Results: Data collected by NDNQI will be analyzed using SAS 9.4, for descriptive statistics and correlations.

Conclusion: Results from this study will provide insight to the importance of effective nurse-physician collaborative communication and highlight areas for improvement. The importance of improving interprofessional communication will be demonstrated through its association with patient outcomes such as missed care, pressure injuries, and nosocomial infections. The information generated from this study will highlight aspects of communication that can be changed to improve nurse-physician collaborative communication, and will reveal opportunities for future research.

Title:

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Keywords:

effective collaboration, nurse-physician and patient outcomes

Abstract Summary:

Poor nurse-physician collaboration negatively affects the delivery of healthcare and patient outcomes. The importance of improving interprofessional collaboration will be demonstrated through its association with patient outcomes such as missed care, pressure injuries, and nosocomial infections. This is a cross-sectional, descriptive study using work environment and clinical data from NDNQI.

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