

A Study the Nurses Perceptions regarding Cooperation with Physicians at Emergency Departments in Babylon Governorate

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Abstract

Background: The emergency department is considered one of the most dangerous working environments in hospitals, as preserving patients' lives and avoiding health complications, creating effective cooperation between nurses and physicians is very important matter should be applied in ED work.

Aim: The study aims to clarify the perceptions of nurses regarding cooperation with physicians in ED.

Material and Method: Quantitative research, cross sectional study design carried out in three emergency department at teaching hospital in Babylon governorate from period of 17 October 2020 to 26 March 2021, 81 male and female nurses who are working at ED participated in this study.

Results: The results of these study indicated the higher percentage were among male nurses at 64.2% and in regard the age parameter the higher percentage were among nurses with age group of 30-39 at 38.2%, the overall of nurses' perceptions regarding cooperation with physician in ED were negative at 51.8% and there is a significant correlation between nurse's perceptions regarding cooperation with physicians and their demographic characteristics in all items except gender and age.

Conclusions: The study concludes the most study participant (nurses) have negative perceptions related to cooperation with physicians in emergency departments at Babylon teaching hospitals.

Keywords: Attitudes, Nurses, Work, Emergency Departments

Introduction

The emergency department is the vital and important part of the hospital, its considered one of the most dangerous working environments in hospitals, as preserving patients' lives and avoiding health complications are requiring accurate work, rapid activity and high communication among health care personnel to control on any urgent change that occurs in patient health that could lead to death⁽¹⁾. Therefore, these changes always have a serious impact on the health of patients and their families, as well as health care workers, which leads to increased work problems in this department⁽²⁾. Nurses are a group of people who have received an educational program in nursing sciences over a period of years to acquire the clinical skills that they use to provide health care to individuals of different ages⁽³⁾. Emergency nursing focuses on providing urgent nursing care to people who suffer from health problems, whether diagnosed or not that resulting from various factors such as psychological, social and physical for different age groups, children, adults and the elderly⁽⁴⁾, the philosophy of emergency nursing focuses on the importance of credibility and high professionalism in clinical services and nursing interventions which is provided to the patients in the emergency department and the imperious need to promote evidence-based nursing practice⁽⁵⁾. The (ED) is often as a messy work environment which lead to making a big challenge for increasing the communication and cohesiveness between multidisciplinary health team. The failure in communication between multidisciplinary team consider the main cause in providing bad health care for patients⁽⁶⁾. Interdisciplinary teamwork is essential to the success of emergency care. For building effective teamwork in the emergency unit, there must be a successful and effective communication in the work between the nurses and the rest of the health team. Good training and competence in carrying out of a clinical skill is very important in the team's work during the emergency room⁽⁷⁾. In ED of any health institutions that provide health care, the active relationship between doctors and nurses, which is characterized by effective and vital communication is one of the essential and necessary aspects to provide high-quality health care as well as help them in making the right decision regarding the health of the patient and promotes the increase and persistence of positive results⁽⁸⁾, this relationship is based on mutual respect and fellowship for the benefit of the patient. One of the manifestations of this relationship is the doing episode of dialogue between the doctor and the nurse and the patient is essential in the treatment process⁽⁹⁾. Collaboration among health care professionals in the emergency unit is critical concept to reach for the care with high quality, patient safety and proper decision-making regarding patient health⁽¹⁰⁾. Nevertheless, over the years the

nurses and doctors are associated with a complex and unstable relationship that is effected by many factors such as social, health system strength, and state health policy. Too often, this relationship passes in practical conflicts and tensions that sometimes result from lack of consensus and working style⁽¹¹⁾. The study aims to explain the perceptions of nurses regarding cooperation with physician in ED at three teaching hospitals in Babylon governorate.

Material and Method

A cross sectional study design is one type of quantitative research conducted at Babylon governorate in three emergency departments of three Teaching hospital from a period of 17 October 2020 to 26 March 2021. Non probability purposive sample consist 81 male and female nurses who are working at ED participated in this study to identify their perceptions about cooperation with physicians in emergency departments.

The researcher explained the objective of the study to all participating nurses after obtaining all administrative and official approvals related to data collection from the study sample, the researcher pledged to abide by the confidentiality of the data that is taken from the study sample. The researcher carried out an organized interview by used face-to-face method with the nurses who are participating in the study, depend on the self-report way to answer on items in the study tool, the time which the nurses needed in interview about 11 minutes.

Results of Study

Table (1) shows the demographic characteristics of study sample after applied the statistical analysis, the results indicate the highest number of male more than female at (64.2%), the age group were among 30-39 years (38.2%) as highest percentage and the level of education for nurses were diploma and technician nurse as current job title as higher percentage (42.0%). In regarding the work period in hospital the higher proportion are (40.8%) among nurses their work period ranging between 11-15 years while the highest percentage of working in emergency department were among group of nurses their working period ranged from 1-5 years (33.3%). Table (2) and shows the overall perceptions of cooperation between nurse's and physicians in emergency department, where the highest percentage of overall of study sample were negative at (51.8%) while neutral at (26.0%) and positive at (22.2%). Table (3) express the correlation between the perceptions of nurses regarding cooperation with physicians in emergency department and their demographic characteristics, the results show there are significant correlation in four demographic parameters at P-value > 0.05 while the another two parameters (gender and age) where its assessment was non-significant.

Table (4-1) Demographic Characteristics of Study Sample

Nurses Demographic Characteristics			
Gender	F	%	
Male	52	64.2	
Female	29	35.8	
<i>Total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>100.0</i>	
Age (years)			
Under 30 years	12	14.8	
30 – 39 years	31	38.2	
40 – 49 years	23	28.4	
More than 49 years	15	18.6	
<i>Total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>100.0</i>	
The Educationlevel			
High Nursing School	28	34.5	
Diploma	34	42.0	
Bachelor Degree	19	23.5	
<i>Total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>100</i>	
Job Title			
Practical Nurse	28	34.5	
Technician Nurse	34	42.0	
Academic Nurse	19	23.5	
<i>Total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>100</i>	
Periodof Working in Hospital			
1 – 5 years	10	12.3	
6 – 10 years	18	22.2	
11 – 15 years	33	40.8	
More than 15 years	20	24.7	
<i>Total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>100</i>	

Period of Working in ED		
1 – 5 years	27	33.3
6 – 10 years	21	26.0
11 – 15 years	14	17.3
More than 15 years	19	23.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>81</i>	<i>100</i>

Table (2) Overall of Nurses Perceptions Toward Cooperation with Physicians in ED

Overall the nurse perceptions toward Cooperation with Physician	Scale	F	%	S.d.	M.S.
	Negative	42	51.8	.684	1.46
	Neutral	21	26.0		
	Positive	18	22.2		
	Total	81	100.0		

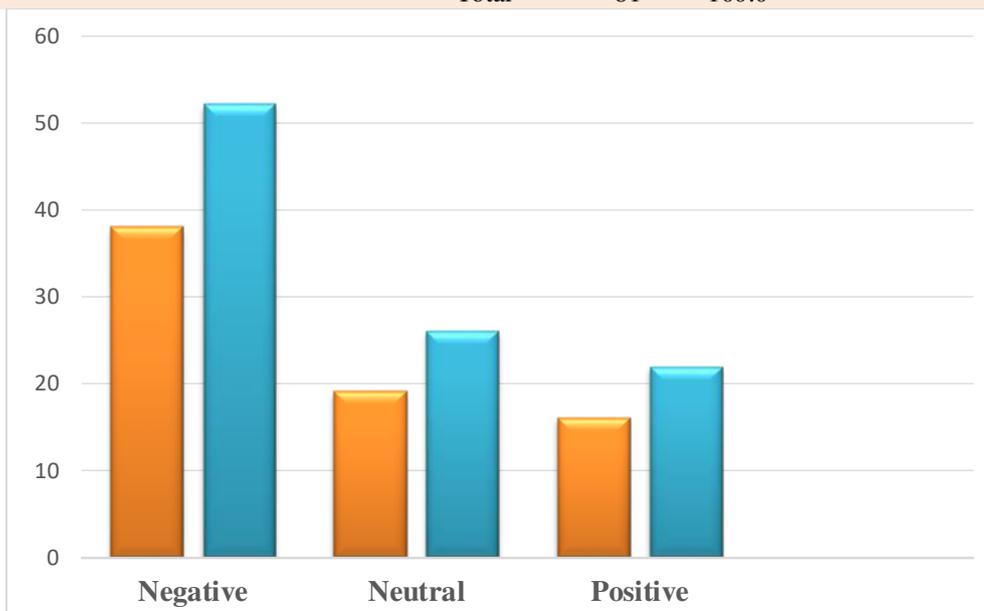


Figure (4-4) Overall of Nurses and Physician Cooperation ED

Table (3) Correlation between Perceptions of Nurses regarding Cooperation with Physician and their Demographic Characteristics in ED

No	Demographic characteristics	Chi-Square Value	D.F	P-Value	Assessment
1	Gender	4.617	4	.329	NS
2	Age	4.237	6	.645	NS
3	What is the highest level of education you have completed?	5.184	2	.075	S
4	What is the current job title	5.184	2	.075	S
5	How long have been working in Hospital?	6.716	3	.043	S
6	What is the work period have you been spent in emergency unit?	12.865	6	.045	S

Discussion of the Results

In Table (1) offers the demographic characteristics of nurses who are participated in the study, the highest percentage of gender, the highest was among male nurses at (64.2%), while in regarding the age the higher percentage were (38.2%) among nurses in age group 30-39 years' old, these result corresponding related the age item with the result of study ⁽¹¹⁾ to measure the nurse's attitudes in ED regarding barcode medication administration where the highest percentage of age group were among nurses with 13-40 years old at (34.5%) but not compatible regarding the gender item, in these study ⁽¹²⁾ the higher percentage were female at (78.2%). Related the nurses educational level The results of the study sample indicated that the highest percentage of them were nurses who with diploma; as an educational level with percentage as (42.0%), this result agree with the result of study ⁽¹³⁾ doing in Egypt at university hospital to identifying the practices and knowledge of emergency nurses in dealing

with disasters and emergency cases, the results showed that the highest percentage of the nurses which participated in the study who work in the emergency departments hold a diploma as an educational level at (72.7%). On the other hand, this result does not agree with the study⁽¹⁰⁾ in Ethiopia to find out the nurse's attitudes toward cooperation with doctors, as the demographic results of the nurses who are participated in the study regarding educational level indicated that the highest percentage was among nurses with a bachelor's degree as a percentage estimated at (49%). In related to the work period of study sample in hospital the result explains the highest percentage were (40.8%) for the period ranged between 11-15 years, the result coincide with the study⁽¹⁴⁾ doing in university hospital in Turkey to explore the nurses' who are exposure to mobbing at work duties and how its effects on job gratification and job leaving, the result of these study in related the period of working in hospital the highest percentage were (31.2%) for nurses which is work period ranging between (10-14) years. Finally, the work period of nurses in emergency department, the result in this table indicated the higher percentage were (33.3%) among nurses with work experience ranging from (1-5) years, this result agrees with the result of study⁽¹⁵⁾ conducted in Istanbul to identify the emergency nurse's attitudes toward patient safety in emergency department, where the researchers choose 321 working in emergency department of hospital.

In table (2) has been shown the overall of nurses' perceptions toward the cooperation with physicians in emergency departments at selected hospitals in Babylon governorate, the result in this table indicate the highest percentage of nurses had negative perceptions toward cooperation with doctors in ED at (51.8%) while the neutral attitudes at (26.0%) and the positive attitudes at (22.2%). When this result is compared with a study⁽¹⁶⁾ conducted in Indonesia in order to test mutual cooperation between nurses and doctors in 25 hospitals in the city of Malang which is the second largest city in the Indonesian province of East Java, we find that there is don't corresponding in the results between the two studies, where the findings of study⁽¹⁷⁾ indicated the higher percentage of nurses at (55.3%) had positive attitudes toward cooperation with physician in emergence department.

Table (3) expressed the correlation between perceptions of nurses' regarding cooperation with physicians in ED and their demographic characteristics. In this table the result indicated there are a significant correlation at $p\text{-value} > 0.05$ for all demographic items except (gender and age) its results were non-significant correlation, this finding compatible with the result of study⁽¹⁷⁾ conducted at United States in Atlantic region to identify the professional values of nursing team and their attitudes regarding nurse-physician cooperation, the result of this study showed there are a significant correlation between demographic characteristics of nurses who are participated in the study and their attitudes toward collaboration with physician. Also, this result consistent with a study⁽¹⁷⁾ conducted in the city of Alexandria in Egypt to clarify the perception of nurses toward cooperation with physician in intensive care unit, the result of these study⁽¹⁸⁾ indicated the demographical characteristics of nurses who are shared in the study (age, gender, level of education and year of experience of working in ICU) effect on their perceptions toward collaboration with physician (significant correlation) in study setting (intensive care units).

Conclusions

The study concludes the higher proportion of nurses who are participated in the study were male more than female, more of them with middle age group 30-39 years old with diploma certificate as level of education. The work period in hospital ranged between 11-15 years' as highest percentage, while their work period in emergency department was 1-5 years. Most nurses who are shared in the study had negative perceptions toward cooperation with physician in ED.

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